

Government denies radiation threat

AMMAN (Petra) — The ministers of health and energy on Saturday denied press reports that residents of southern Jordan were threatened by radiation emanating from the Israeli nuclear plant at Dimona. Briefing a cabinet session, health minister Aref Bataineh said news reports that residents of the area may suffer from disease resulting from radiation poisoning were baseless. Dr. Bataineh said statistics about diseases in the area were like those about other areas of the kingdom. He also said that cancer cases in the south were also as in other parts of the kingdom. He said radioactivity in the area was also within international standards. Energy and mineral resources minister Sami Darwazeh assured the cabinet that the ministry has modern equipment to detect and measure radioactivity. He said no abnormal radioactivity was detected in the south. Israel's Dimona plant is located in the Negev desert, 60 kilometres from the city of Tafich, in its regular session, which was chaired by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the cabinet heard briefings by the ministers of water and irrigation, interior and agriculture on the outcome of their recent visit to Al Rweishid and the water situation in the area.

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جريدة تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الرأي

King to visit Egypt Tuesday

CATRO (R) — His Majesty King Hussein will arrive in Egypt on Tuesday for talks with President Hosni Mubarak on the Middle East peace process and Arab affairs. Egyptian officials said on Saturday. They said they were also expected to discuss bilateral ties. Ties between Jordan and Egypt have been steadily improving, mainly because of their support for the Middle East peace process. King Hussein's visit will bring the two leaders together for the first time since Mr. Mubarak visited Jordan earlier this year — his first trip here since the Gulf crisis erupted in 1990. The King has visited Egypt twice since the 1948-49 crisis.

Syria accuses Israel of blocking peace

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa on Saturday accused Israel of blocking the Middle East peace process. Mr. Sharaa, speaking at the opening of the joint Syrian-Saudi committee for political and economic cooperation, said an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, captured in 1967, was still a condition for achieving peace with the Jewish state. "Israel has placed obstacles during the last years in the way of peace," Mr. Sharaa said. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal expressed Saudi Arabia's support for Syria's peace demands and urged an Israeli withdrawal to its pre-war borders. "We assure the necessity of Israeli withdrawal to pre-June 4, 1967 lines and the liberation of all of the Golan," Prince Saud said.

Police disperse rioting Sudanese students — T.V.

CAIRO (R) — Sudanese students rioted outside Khartoum University as president Omar Hassan Al Bashir met with another group of students inside the building, Egyptian television reported on Saturday. Diplomatic sources in Khartoum could not confirm whether the riots took place earlier on Saturday and the news broadcast from state television gave no reason for the riot or other details. The afternoon news broadcast said police fired tear gas to disperse the group which had gathered outside the university and battered the car of interior minister Brigadier Al Tayeb Ibrahim Mohammad Khair. Mr. Bashir suspended the meeting when the gas leaked into the conference hall, the television news said. Egypt and Sudan have been engaged in a month-long war of words since Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak blamed the Sudanese government of having a hand in the attempt to kill him in Addis Ababa on June 26, worsening already tense diplomatic relations.

Italy presses Tunisia to extradite ex-premier

TABARKA, Tunisia (AP) — Italy has asked Tunisia to extradite Bettino Craxi, the former Italian prime minister facing corruption charges back home, Italy's ambassador said Friday night. The 61-year-old Craxi, citing health reasons, has refused to leave Tunisia, where he took refuge in 1993 and held up in his Mediterranean seaside villa in Hammamet. Francesco Carruso, the Italian ambassador, said he expected a return from the Tunisian government "in a few days." He said Mr. Craxi will be required to go before a Tunisian court to respond to the extradition request. Mr. Craxi faces two international arrest warrants, the latest filed this month.

Turkish troops kill 8 separatist Kurds

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (R) — Turkish troops killed eight separatist Kurdish guerrillas in two clashes in south-east Turkey, officials said on Saturday. Seven members of the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) were killed in a clash in Hakkari province. Troops killed another guerrilla in a clash in Van province, they said. A soldier was also killed in the incident in Hakkari, they added. More than 17,500 people have lost their lives in the PKK's 11-year-old war for an independent Kurdish state in Turkey.

Clinton continues Iraqi national emergency

WASHINGTON (USIS) — President Bill Clinton on Friday notified Congress that "because the government of Iraq has continued its activities hostile to the United States' interests in the Middle East," the national emergency with respect to Iraq must continue in effect beyond August 2, 1995.

Serbs torch Zepa but face detente in W. Bosnia



French troops for the Rapid Reaction Force build a shelter near their camp in the forests of the Mount Igman (AFP photo)

the Krajina stronghold of Knin.

"Your successes are a huge step towards our joint goal of defeating the policy of the aggressor Serbs," Bosnian government commander General Rasin Delic said in a message of thanks to his Croat counterparts.

Bosnian Serb army sources said the Croat forces had turned the gun-barrels eastwards and were heading for the central Bosnian towns of Grado and Grahovac on Friday, severing a key road linking the Bosnian Serbs with Croatian Serbs in

Banja Luka.

Croat forces were also shelling villages on the approaches to Knin, the Krajina Serb army said.

The United Nations was "extremely concerned" about a separate mass build-up of Croatian government forces inside Croatia to the west of Serb-held Krajina, Mr. Ivanko said.

Ten Croatian brigades had been mobilised west of Krajina, a U.N. spokesman said. A brigade normally has about 3,000 troops.

The United Nations fears

total war will break out in Croatia and even drag Serbia back into the conflict.

Knin, the stronghold of Serb-held Krajina, is the symbol of Serb resistance to Croatia and ignited the four-year-old war across former Yugoslavia.

The Krajina Serbs hold about a fifth of Croatian territory.

U.N. relief officials said 13,000 Serb civilians had fled deeper into Bosnia and many were sleeping in the open. The Bosnian Serb army said a total of 20,000 Serb civilians

had fled the fighting, some heading south to Krajina.

The aggressors have plundered and torched all Serb settlements in the area," a Bosnian Serb statement said.

European Union (EU) peace negotiators Carl Bildt said in Sweden he saw no hope of a halt to the fighting in Bosnia in the near term and a U.N. withdrawal could not be ruled out.

"I don't think the different parties are ready for a ceasefire yet, they have decided to

(Continued on page 7)

Jordanian, Palestinian businessmen sign cooperation protocol

By Sa'eda Kilani
 Special to the Jordan Times

Russians, Chechens resume talks

GROZNY (R) — Russian and separatist Chechen negotiators on Saturday resumed peace talks aimed at ending seven months of fighting in the southern region and prepared to negotiate through out the night.

The fresh round of talks began several hours late after Chechen delegates arriving here said a promised Russian escort failed to turn up in time to deliver them to Grozny after their consultations with rebel field commanders.

"We are waiting for the cars for two days. There was an official corridor we were supposed to use but it took us eight hours to get here," Chechen chief negotiator Usman Imayev told reporters.

Due to the delay the talks started well after lunch.

A Russian official told reporters waiting at the gates of the Grozny mission of the Organisation of the Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) — the venue of talks — that negotiations would continue throughout the night.

He said the sides decided not to release any information to the press.

Russian troops have taken over most of Chechnya, which unilaterally declared independence in 1991, since they entered the region in December, but the rebels still hold out in some remote mountainous areas in the south.

The talks broke up on Tuesday with hopes fading that a deal would be reached on the status of Chechnya. The parties appeared keen to focus on military issues.

Chechens want Moscow to recognise the north Caucasus region's independence.

An agreement now under discussion on military aspects of the conflict is widely seen as crucial for holding free elections in Chechnya, planned for November.

Beilin says Israel, Syria 'approaching moment of truth' Israeli minister calls for entering into final status talks with Palestinians

By Salameh Ne'matt
 Special to the Jordan Times

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli Minister for Economy and Planning Yossi Beilin has called on Syrian President Hafez Assad to "put on the table" his requirements for a peaceful settlement with Israel, "warning that the two sides are approaching the moment of truth" at the end of 1995, before negotiations are overshadowed by elections in the United States and Israel.

Mr. Beilin, speaking to the Jordan Times and the London-based Al-Hayat pan-Arab daily, stressed the need to open a dialogue with Iraq immediately after lifting the international sanctions, "as long as the regime (in Bagh-

dad) behaves according to international norms."

He pointed out that Israel "does not want to exclude" Iraq from the regional peace process, and that "it is not a personal or emotional matter with the Iraqi leadership."

The Israeli minister, who is considered a controversial figure in the ruling Labour Party, said that Israel had "a solution with Syria... but no process," while it had "a process with the Palestinians... but no final solution," he stressed the need for a process with Syria that would lead to a settlement.

Mr. Beilin also called for entering immediately into final status negotiations with the Palestinians, pointing out that he did not believe in having an interim period for

confidence building measures.

He said there was a need to "make peace" not to build confidence because "this is not a love affair. How can we build confidence as occupiers."

Following are excerpts from the interview

Question In view of the recent escalation of violence, are you going ahead with your policy of separation with the West Bank? Are you still planning to build a wall between you?

Answer We spoke about a wall, but the idea of separation is a very important issue in Israel and is always mentioned when there are terrorist attacks. But it is very

(Continued from page 6)

Europeans, North Africans condemn 'terrorism'

TABARKA, Tunisia (R) — Senior officials from 11 North African and South European countries, ending two days of talks on Saturday, condemned what they called "terrorism" in the Mediterranean region and agreed to forge closer links.

He said the sides decided not to release any information to the press.

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news conference.

The meeting, the forum's third since it first met in Egypt in July 1994, was held to discuss links with a focus on regional security highlighted by a Paris metro blast in which Muslim militants are the main suspects.

It also prepared for a conference between the European Union's (EU) 15 members and 12 Mediterranean countries in Barcelona in November.

The Barcelona conference is part of a new strategy by the EU to avoid a spread of political violence into Europe from such countries as Algeria and Egypt.

Ministers from Arab states attending the forum, however, appeared not entirely satisfied with the assurances given by their European counterparts on how they plan to end Serb offensives in Bosnia.

"The measures announced are promises... Bosnian Serb aggression must be stopped. The United Nations... must act otherwise Muslim countries will lift the arms ban to Bosnia," Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa told reporters.

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"The measures announced are promises... Bosnian Serb aggression must be stopped. The United Nations... must act otherwise Muslim countries will lift the arms ban to Bosnia," Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa told reporters.

Mr. De Charette said he did not discuss the Paris blast when he met on Saturday with Algerian Foreign Minister Salah Dabiq.

"We did not discuss the Paris attack... for which we have not for the moment indications which permit us to confirm its origin," Mr. De Charette told Reuters.

Mr. Ben Yehia said that beside security concerns, the issue of Libya's participation in the Barcelona conference was discussed.

"I am satisfied to see that

U.S. received warning before Lockerbie disaster — paper

LONDON (R) — An intelligence report warned the U.S. State Department less than three weeks before the 1988 Lockerbie air disaster that a Palestinian group planned to attack the Pan Am airline, a British newspaper said Saturday.

The report reopens the controversy surrounding the bombing of the Pan Am jet over Lockerbie (in Scotland) and raises new questions about the British and U.S. governments' insistence that Libya alone was to blame, the Guardian said.

Two hundred and seventy people were killed when Pan Am Flight 103 from London to New York was blown up on Dec. 21, 1988.

"Team of Palestinians not associated with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) intends to attack US jets in Europe. Time frame is present," the Guardian quoted the counter-intelligence report, headed Department of State, Diplomatic Security, as saying on Dec. 2, 1988.

The report added: "Jets specified are Pan-Am airlines and US military bases."

A comment attached to the report said: "We cannot rule out or confirm this."

The Guardian said the name of the informant was blacked out, as was an item headed FRG, a reference to the Federal Republic of Germany. Pan Am Flight 103 landed in Frankfurt.

The document was obtained by lawyers representing Pan Am's insurers under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act and was passed to Tam Dalyell, a member of parliament for Britain's opposition Labour Party, the newspaper said.

The document flies in the face of all the assurances repeatedly given by (the British government) that there were no warnings," Mr. Dalyell was quoted as saying by the Guardian.

The U.N. Security Council, after a periodic review, made no change Friday in its sanctions against Libya in connection with the Lockerbie bombing. Council members said.

The sanctions were first imposed in April 1992 because of Libya's refusal to hand over for trial in Britain or the United States two alleged intelligence agents indicted in both countries for planting a bomb on board the

jumbo jet.

The sanctions, reviewed by the council every 120 days, include an air embargo, a ban on the sale or transfer of arms to Libya, and the downgrading of diplomatic links with that country.

Additional punitive measures went into force in December 1993 because of Libya's continued failure to comply with the Council's demands, which also require its cooperation with an investigation into the bombing of France's UTA Flight 772 over Niger in 1989 which killed 171 people.

The added measures include a freeze on some Libyan assets abroad and a ban on its import of certain types of equipment used at oil transport terminals and in refineries. But they do not prohibit the export of Libyan oil or its purchase of oil drilling equipment.

Libya has repeatedly offered to allow the two indicted men to stand trial at the world court at the Hague, but under Scottish law and by a Scottish judge, Britain and the United States regard this as unacceptable.

As during previous sanc-

tions reviews, the United States again raised the threat of adding an oil embargo. But there has been little support for such a move and no oil ban resolution has been introduced so far.

Libya, attacking what it termed Washington's "intransigence," said Saturday the extension of U.N. sanctions over the 1988 bombing of a U.S. airliner which killed 270 people would worsen the suffering of Libyan people.

Libya's official news agency (JANA), quoting a statement from the Libyan representatives in the United Nations, said Libya was surprised that the United States, Britain and France continued to reject all proposals aimed to find a fair solution.

"This intransigence is not in the interest of the victims' families and is not in the interest of neighbouring countries. This continued intransigence will add to the ordeal of the Libyan Arab people and the neighbouring states," it said.

JANA said "such unjustified resolutions" only discredited the United Nations in the eyes of the people around the world.

Human rights watch, based in New York, said in a report that Kuwait's treatment of the stateless Arabs — known as "bidoun," Arabic for "without" — "amounts to a policy of apartheid."

It said that 130,000 to 160,000 bidoun, originally members of nomadic tribes which wandered south from the Syrian steppes decades ago, fled to Iraq after Saddam Hussein's forces invaded Kuwait in August 1990 and are now stranded there without passports because Kuwaiti authorities will not allow them back.

Since Kuwait was liberated in February 1991, it has expelled some 24,000 more, while the 150,000 to 180,000 still in the emirate are harassed and intimidated, denied the right to lawful residence, employment, "travel and movement" in violation of international law, Human Rights Watch said.

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Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday addresses the opening of a workshop for women in Salt on how to conserve water (Petra photo)

Princess Basma urges women to help in drive to conserve water

SALT (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday urged women in the Balqa region to contribute to the national effort to conserve water, stressing that water shortage remains one of the most important challenges facing the society.

The workshop, which was organised in cooperation with USAID, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the Jordan Environmental Society (JES), was addressed by JEA Vice President Mohammad Masalha who said the meeting was part of the society's ongoing drive to promote water conservation public awareness in all areas of water usage.

Addressing the opening session of a two-day workshop for women on economising in the use of water, the Princess said that women's efforts are needed to help protect the nation's meagre water resources.

Praising the Ministry of Water and Irrigation for its continued drive to spread public awareness about water issues, Princess Basma said Jordan is grateful to the United States

Agency for International Development (USAID) and other organisations which are helping Jordan to protect its water resources and manage available supplies.

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Ministry Secretary General Mohammad Bani Hani said Jordan needs \$1.5 million to properly develop its water resources, but is unable to come up with the

funds on its own and could never implement the project even when funds are secured unless the ministry's efforts are backed by the public.

Dr Bani Hani said that as 50 per cent of the water supplies pumped to the public are wasted either due to leakage through old and worn out pipes and unorthodox methods of utilising water, the role of women is essential in helping to reduce water consumption.

USAID Director William Oliver told the meeting that his agency was concentrating on helping Jordan protect and develop water resources, adding that one of the best ways is to prevent their contamination.

About 50 women are attending the workshop.

Election result in Wahadneh proves success of women's movement, says Princess Basma

WAHADNEH (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday laid the foundation stone for the youth club in Wahadneh, which is being built by the Ministry of Youth.

Later Princess Basma attended a meeting by the municipal council which discussed several projects to be carried out. She pointed out the need for cooperation with the local community and the concerned government departments to ensure the success of these endeavours.

The Princess laid the foundation stone for the youth club which is being built by the Ministry of Youth and announced a donation of JD 5,000 to the project from the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF).

Princess Basma formally inaugurated the community centre, the 45th to be set up by QAF in Jordan.

The centre will offer social services to the local community, mainly benefiting women and children, with a special wing accommodating 80 children and sections for training women in typing and dress-making.

For her part Ms. Futeimah pledged that the municipal council members will exert their utmost efforts towards serving the town's residents and announced that the main street in the town will be named after Princess Basma in recognition of her efforts to promote the status of Jordanian women and for opening the local community centre.

Later Princess Basma attended a meeting by the municipal council which discussed several projects to be carried out. She pointed out the need for cooperation with the local community and the concerned government departments to ensure the success of these endeavours.

The Princess laid the foundation stone for the youth club which is being built by the Ministry of Youth and announced a donation of JD 5,000 to the project from the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF).

Princess Basma formally inaugurated the community centre, the 45th to be set up by QAF in Jordan.

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Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday lays the foundation stone for the youth club in Wahadneh, which is being built by the Ministry of Youth (Petra photo)

WHAT'S GOING ON

JERASH FESTIVAL

- Concert by Blassorchester Langenhagen of Germany at Artemis Steps at 9:00 p.m.
- Guem Drum Show (France), Sound & Light Theatre, Fri., 9:00 p.m.
- Concert by the Cavern Beatles of England at the South Theatre at 8:30 p.m.
- Play (in Arabic) entitled "The Caravan of Excellence - Love" (Part II) at Gracia Theatre at 9:30 p.m.
- Guem Drum Show - France at Umm Qais at 8:30 p.m.
- Classical music concert by Abbas Ali at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:45 p.m.
- Play (in Arabic) entitled "The Digger and the

Blind Prostitute" at Gracia Theatre at 8:00 p.m.

- Performance by Jugnu Group, Forum, Fri., 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Poetry recital by several Arab poets at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Luweibdeh (7:00-9:00 p.m.)
- Performance by several Jordanian groups at the Forum (6:30-9:00 p.m.)
- Egyptian circus at the Forum at 9:30 p.m.

FILM

"Glory" at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

- Festival of Palestinian National Songs at the Professional Association Complex, 6:00 p.m.

PALESTINIAN SONG FESTIVAL

EXHIBITIONS

- Works by Randa Qassis at the Royal Cultural Centre
- Exhibition of Palestinian products 95 at the Universal Expo Centre, University Road.
- Display of Palestinian heritage at the Professional Associations Complex.
- Paintings and ceramics by Arab artists at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Utheina.
- Paintings by Adnan Yahyah at Darat Al Funun.

- Exhibition demonstrating the development of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.



A visiting delegation of representatives of American companies and a team from the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation Saturday hold a press conference in Amman to explain the purpose of their mission (Petra photo)

Visiting U.S. investment organisation seeks to generate interest in joint ventures in Mideast

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A delegation representing 15 American private sector companies led by the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) arrived in Amman Friday looking for investment opportunities in Jordan.

This is the first OPIC investment mission to the Kingdom and comes at the end of a week-long effort in the Middle East - the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan — to generate interest in joint ventures with American companies.

OPIC Executive Vice President Christopher Finn is billing the effort as a show of support for regional peace.

"We have a keen interest in the development of peace," said Mr. Finn. "President Clinton believes, and we believe, that peace and economic stability are inextricably linked. We are an integral part of U.S. foreign policy, which focuses more and more on economic development."

OPIC is an independent U.S. government agency that encourages direct American private investment in developing countries or emerging free market

economies, primarily providing project financing through loans and loan guarantees and political risk insurance to American partners in joint ventures overseas, basically acting as a catalyst for private sector investment.

The delegation to Jordan represents a variety of sectors (including energy, construction, light manufacturing, water treatment, tourism and financial services) from some of the U.S.'s most reputable companies: Bechtel; Culligan Water Technologies; Dearborn Financial, Inc., and DuPont Advanced Material Systems among others.

OPIC currently is backing private sector projects in more than 140 countries, and is prepared to back private sector investment in Jordan.

"We focus on what the private sector is willing to invest in," said delegation co-leader Susan Levine.

"The fact that we have 15 companies is a signal that the private sector is willing to invest here."

"In the region, we have been very impressed," said Mr. Finn. "Entrepreneurship is alive here, and when we sit down to talk, we feel that we can get right to the heart of the matter — the return

on the investment."

Mr. Finn said that OPIC will be represented at the upcoming Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit to be hosted in Amman next October.

"The president has asked OPIC to play a major role," he said. "It will be a multi-agency approach with other government agencies. We will be represented by (OPIC) President Ruth Harkin."

Accompanying the delegation is George S. Sigler, of

Sigler, Guff and Co., managers of an OPIC supported multi-million dollar equity fund that will make direct investments in private business ventures in Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

While in the region, the company will select a local adviser for Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza.

The Middle East/North Africa Regional Growth Fund, which is currently raising capital, expects to raise up to US\$250 million

from U.S. and European private investors. OPIC will be providing an investment guarantee to support the effort.

Jordan is the last stop for the investment mission, which visited the occupied territories and Israel earlier in the week.

During its visit in Jordan, the delegation will meet with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Abu Raghib and Jordanian businesspersons.

Waste processing project to include tyre recycling, garbage separation

AMMAN (Petra) —

Amman Municipality has plans to build a plant for processing waste and is seeking funds from international agencies to finance the project, according to Hussein Zaki, assistant to the mayor of Amman for health affairs.

In a statement Saturday, Dr. Zaki said that the JD 20 million plant will be a nucleus for an overall plan to deal with all waste in the Kingdom.

Work on the project should start in 1996 and be operational by 1997.

The municipality has invited the private sector to help execute the project, but a tender for its implementation has not yet been awarded.

ed, said Dr. Zaki.

Plans for implementing the project were set only after a feasibility study for the plant proved viable, Dr. Zaki said.

According to Dr. Zaki, the projected plant will treat 2,000 tonnes of waste daily, as well as produce 600 tonnes of organic material to be used as fertilisers which are needed to enrich the soil, help green Jordan and combat desertification.

Fertilisation products will be sold at a nominal price not exceeding JD 6 a tonne, he added.

The plant will also be able to separate iron, aluminium, glass, plastic and paper to be sold to Jordanian industries.

Dr. Zaki disclosed that the municipality has undertaken a study for ridding the country of waste tyres which are littered along the main roads and around towns.

He said that the municipality plans to recycle used tyres and use them as asphalt roads and for other purposes.

The municipality is studying the prospect of involving citizens in the process of separating waste materials at home and at the commercial centres.

There will be a trial plan applied in one area of Amman in the first stage before application by other areas in the capital, Dr. Zaki said.

Seminar seeks to outline poultry industry problems

AMMAN (Petra) —

The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a long-term plan aimed at promoting the poultry industry, increasing production and dealing with poultry disease, said Ministry Secretary General Ghaleb Abu Orabi Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a two-week training seminar on poultry diseases, Mr. Abu Orabi said that while Jordan is producing table eggs in surplus of local market needs, production of poultry meat is still not entirely sufficient.

In 1994 Jordan's poultry production was estimated at 94,000 tonnes, 2,000 less than the required amounts, while table egg production was 870 million eggs, 32 million in surplus of local need.

By comparison Jordan's production of red meat was 16,000 tonnes, while the country's needs were estimated at 46,654 tonnes annually, said Mr. Abu Orabi.

The poultry industry contributes substantially to the national economy, Mr. Abu Orabi said, with 2,138 poultry farms producing poultry and 177 poultry farms for producing table eggs in the country.

Mr. Abu Orabi said that according to the new plans, the ministry will regularly inspect these farms, provide guidance and assistance and will locate qualified staff as close as possible to these farms to deal more efficiently with production problems.

Organised by the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the seminar was attended by 25 veterinarians, agricultural engineers and technicians from the ministry's various departments as well as the private sector.

AOAD Director General Abdul Hamid Kayed outlined the organisation's plans for promoting the poultry industry of the Arab

World and in ensuring food security.

The two-week seminar will also seek to train cadres on the subject of poultry, Mr. Kayed said.

A GTZ official attending the meeting outlined the assistance his agency has been providing to promote agricultural development in Jordan and estimated the assistance at a cost of about JD 703,000.



Participants to the opening of a two-week training seminar on poultry industry problems listen to a speaker discuss the production situation in Jordan (Petra photo)

Sri Lanka's Tamil rebels send children into fight — army

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan Armed Forces celebrated their biggest victory over Tamil Tiger rebels Saturday and accused the guerrillas of sending young girls and boys to their deaths in the front line.

More than 180 bodies of guerrillas had been recovered after the rebels launched an abortive raid on four north-eastern military bases Friday, a military spokesman said.

State radio said many more bodies of rebels had been seen strewn along the beach near the fishing village of Kokilai in the Welioya area. It put the likely final death toll for the guerrillas — the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam — at more than 300.

Only one home guard and one soldier were killed in the raids, the military said. Eighteen soldiers were wounded.

Tiger Radio, silent about the attack until Friday evening, said the LTTE had lost 50 cadres.

Military spokesman Brigadier Sarath Munasinghe said the troops were well prepared for the assault but he was appalled at the number of children killed in the enemy front lines.

"There were young girls and boys in large numbers," he told Reuters Saturday.

"There is no respect of human life on their side. We can't sacrifice human lives like that."

State radio quoted Welioya area commander Brigadier Janaka Perera as describing the 12-hour battle as the greatest victory scored by the military since the beginning of the war against the LTTE in 1983.

Troops were conducting a huge clearing operation Saturday and handing over bodies to the International Committee of the Red Cross in the north-central town of Vavuniya.

About 3,000 Tigers were involved in the attack on the military detachments at Kokilai, Janakapura, Jayasinghepura and Kokkududuvu, military sources said.

Brig. Munasinghe said the armed forces, which had received intelligence of an impending attack, hoped for more successes like this but could not be complacent.

"It doesn't mean the LTTE will refrain from more attacks," said Brig. Munasinghe, who has been stationed in the area and is familiar with the terrain. He described the battle as a "good lesson" for the LTTE.

State radio said the Tiger dead included three women suicide bombers who exploded in balls of fire when shot by the troops.

The Tigers had cut off electricity to the Welioya army headquarters, but a back-up generator had switched on automatically and rebels

were caught in the perimeter floodlights, it said.

In a separate incident in the east, two soldiers were killed and eight wounded Saturday when Tigers attacked an army post guarding a bridge southwest of Batticaloa, Brig. Munasinghe said. The LTTE suffered "heavy casualties," he said.

Tigers earlier attacked a joint police-army patrol south of Indigalwewa in Anuradhapura district killing one policeman and wounding four soldiers, he said.

The LTTE is fighting for a homeland for Sri Lanka's minority Tamils in the north and east in a war that has cost more than 50,000 lives.

Friday's attacks followed leaks to the press of President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga's peace package offering widespread devolution to Tamils.

The LTTE was left out of the negotiating process after it scuppered a truce on April 19 and resumed hostilities.

The Tigers launched their raids Friday as the armed forces prepared to resume their Operation Leap Forward offensive in the LTTE's Jaffna peninsula stronghold in the north. The military said it had captured 78 square kilometres of rebel territory.

The Tigers launched their last major attack on the island of Mandaitivu, Jaffna on June 28, killing almost 100 soldiers in what

was described as a great military success.

Meanwhile, an American arrested for alleged links with Tamil separatists was deported Friday.

Kenneth Mulder, 26, from the state of Michigan, had worked with the National Christian Council in Colombo, a group of churches providing relief to areas hit by the fighting between the military and Tamil Tiger rebels in Sri Lanka's 12-year civil war.

Mr. Mulder was arrested on July 21 by the military while trying to enter a rebel-held area in the north.

"Mulder was put aboard an Airlink flight to Zurich in the early hours of this morning," said J.A. Ariyasena, the head of the Department of Immigration. He was expected to take an American Airlines flight from Zurich to New York.

"In the interest of good relations with the United States, we decided to expel him rather than prosecute him," said U.N. Kotakadeniya, deputy inspector-general of police.

Mr. Mulder arrived in Sri Lanka four months ago. After an earlier visit to rebel-held areas this month, Mr. Mulder put up a poster in his Colombo office criticising President Chandrika Kumaratunga's peace package offering widespread devolution to Tamils.

Looking somber, he called for a minute of silence to remember those killed in fighting the Shining Path guerrillas.

The bespectacled Fujimori, an obscure former college dean and mathematics professor before his surprise election in 1990, said he was sworn in for five more years Friday amid heavy security — a reminder the rebels were still a threat.

"Violence and death...

have lashed our country for many years, leaving pain, hatred, fear in all of Peru's homes. 30,000 dead, thousands wounded and maimed, 100,000 orphans and 600,000 refugees," he said.

"That night is remaining behind and we are beginning to see the dawn of better days."

Mr. Fujimori, who turned 57 Friday, has received praise for battling insurgents, slashing runaway inflation and attracting foreign investors to resuscitate Peru's



Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori (right) Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy waves after being sworn in for his second term (AFP photo)

as president of Peru. He is accompanied by

Fujimori inaugurated to 2nd term

LIMA (AP) — President Alberto Fujimori, credited with crippling a guerrilla insurgency during his first term, was sworn in for five more years Friday amid heavy security — a reminder the rebels were still a threat.

Mr. Fujimori received the red-and-white presidential sash from Martha Chavez, president of Congress, as nine Latin American presidents and other dignitaries looked on.

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Mr. Fujimori, who turned 57 Friday, has received praise for battling insurgents, slashing runaway inflation and attracting foreign investors to resuscitate Peru's

moribund economy.

But in a clear sign that the Maoist guerrilla movement is not dead, the inauguration ceremonies took place under the heaviest security seen in Lima since Mr. Fujimori closed Congress and the courts in 1992, arguing the step was necessary to halt the rebels' advance.

On Thursday, authorities closed off 100 blocks in downtown Lima to vehicle traffic and were controlling even pedestrian access to the historic Plaza De Armas where the government palace and Congress are located.

Barricades manned by police with automatic weapons blocked the streets leading into Lima's downtown.

Japan's Takemura to stay party chief

TOKYO (R) — Finance Minister Magayoshi Takemura withdrew his resignation as leader of the smallest party in Japan's government Saturday, ending a political crisis in the ruling coalition.

Mr. Takemura, who resigned Friday as head of the Sakigake Party because of an electoral setback, kept party officials guessing for almost 24 hours before heeding their pleas to remain as party leader.

"Takemura has agreed to stay head of the party," a relieved Sakigake Party leader Shuhei Tanaka told reporters.

"I feel responsible for weakening the party. But I have decided to abide by the

party's decision," a stern-looking Takemura told reporters. "Let's make a fresh start this time."

Mr. Tanaka said there was no question that Mr. Takemura, who has guided Japan's economy for the past 13 months, would remain finance minister. Mr. Takemura never resigned that post.

However, Mr. Takemura, who resigned because of the party's poor showing in last Sunday's upper house elections, did not flinch from putting his name under the finance minister under the microscope.

"All of those concerned, including myself, must clarify responsibility," Mr. Takemura said.

U.S. woman who killed sons spared death

UNION, South Carolina (R) — The Susan Smith murder case, once used in Republican election rhetoric as a symbol of America's moral decline, ended with a Bible reading and a unanimous jury vote for mercy.

After two weeks of evidence and testimony, a panel of nine men and three women Friday rejected the prosecution's argument that the 23-year-old mother should be executed for drowning her two little boys.

Circuit Judge William Howard pronounced the jury's sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole for 30 years as thunder from a passing storm rumbled above the Union County Courthouse.

"There's no good outcome to this case," Defence Attorney David Bruck told reporters after asking jurors to opt for mercy in the form of a life sentence. "This case was an awful human tragedy."

The saga burst into the national spotlight on Oct. 25, when Ms. Smith told police that three-year-old Michael and 10-month-old Alex had been abducted by a black carjacker. Authorities mounted a nine-day nationwide manhunt for the boys, aided by the mother's televised pleas for their safety.

Witnesses put the number taking part in the protest at up to 2,000 people.

Some said Palu Party leader and veteran opposition activist Antoine Gizenga had been arrested.

Security forces sealed off the parliament building after the incident. They also manhandled journalists and briefly detained them for questioning.

4 killed in Zaire democracy protest

KINSHASA (R) — Up to four people were killed in Zaire's capital Kinshasa Saturday when security forces opened fire on a democracy protest, witnesses and marchers said.

Police confirmed that one paramilitary gendarme had been killed but had no comment on a suggestion from a spokesman for the marchers that three of the demonstrators had also been shot dead and many wounded.

The march on parliament

was organised by supporters of the Palu Party of murdered post-independence Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba to protest against the extension of Zaire's democratic transition for a further two years.

"We were surprised to see the security forces in front of the (National Assembly) palace. They fired on the crowd. Three people were killed in the crowd and they also shot one of their own," Palu Party spokesman

Suu Kyi declines UNESCO job offer

RANGOON (Agencies) — Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi denied Saturday that she had accepted a post of UNESCO special advisor on democracy and human rights, saying her obligations here did not allow her to work overseas for the time being.

Aung San Suu Kyi refused reports that she had accepted in principle on July 10 the offer to be special advisor to Director General Frederico Mayor of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

"My obligation here would not permit me to take up work outside Burma (now officially known as Myanmar) at this time," she said.

Making a brief public appearance Saturday to greet well-wishers who gathered in front of her compound, Mrs. Suu Kyi said she would also decline invitations to travel abroad.

"My work is here and I have no plans to travel," she said during a press conference Friday, when asked if she planned to travel either inside or outside the country.

Mrs. Suu Kyi, the 1991 Nobel Peace laureate who was recently freed after six years under house arrest, has pledged to continue to work for democracy in her homeland.

A copy of her letter to UNESCO is expected to be issued Sunday.

Mrs. Suu Kyi has had her first meeting with a senior member of the military gov-

ernment since her July 10 release from house arrest, reporters said Friday.

The news prompted speculation that the government may agree to hold talks on national reconciliation, as Mrs. Suu Kyi has urged.

Col. Kyaw Win, the deputy chief of military intelligence, was seen by reporters entering and leaving Mrs. Suu Kyi's University Avenue home in his car Thursday. It was Col. Kyaw Win who delivered news of the government's unconditional release of Mrs. Suu Kyi to the Nobel Peace Prize winner on July 10.

At a news conference Friday she refused to say what was discussed with the intelligence officer.

"You must ask whomever told you about the meeting," she jokingly told reporters.

Observers believe Col. Kyaw Win's visit was to convey a message from either his immediate superior, General Khin Nyunt, or from General Than Shwe. They are the co-leaders of the government.

General Assembly resolutions are only recommendations.

The exile government was formed in 1990 along the Burmese border with Thailand, where thousands of activists sought haven from government persecution. It was dissolved and a new cabinet lineup selected at the Sweden meeting so it could more effectively support Mrs. Suu Kyi's initiatives, the statement said.

"I would like my supporters not to expect too much too soon," she said after the release. "We still have a long way to go."

She has also made conciliatory statements towards the military, and insisted that everything is open to negotiations.

Mrs. Suu Kyi has been urging dialogue and has pledged to continue her campaign for democracy, while urging supporters to be disciplined and patient.

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ful," said Ling Chi Wang, a professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California at Berkeley.

White discontent — home to the right wing of the Republican Party — has become Mr. Wilson's wellspring of support in his long-shot bid for the presidency, but it is not limited to his territory alone.

He's running for the White House, which he will not get," vowed the Reverend Jesse Jackson, a black leader with presidential ambitions of his own, who launched a recall campaign to remove Mr. Wilson from office.

Nowhere in the country are ethnic divisions more apparent than in California with some five million immigrants expected to pour into the most populous state in the country over the next five years, most of them Asian and Hispanic while a growing number of whites are leaving the state.

"He's running for the White House, which he will not get," vowed the Reverend Jesse Jackson, a black leader with presidential ambitions of his own, who launched a recall campaign to remove Mr. Wilson from office.

"He knows how potent race-baiting politics can be. Standing on principle may cost him votes, particularly in California, a state he must

carry to win re-election in 1996. But he did it anyway."

Rev. Jackson is trying to get the necessary 600,000 registered voters to sign petitions by Aug. 28 — the anniversary of civil rights leader Martin Luther King's march on 1963 Washington — to recall the governor.

It was Rev. Jackson's first shot over the bow of Mr. Wilson's campaign since last week's showdown on the University of California (UC) at Berkeley where Mr. Wilson announced the abolition of race-based preferences in admissions and contracts.

President Bill Clinton — despite political peril — has vowed to stand up to efforts to eliminate a cornerstone of the civil rights movement to expand opportunities to minorities, particularly blacks.

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Schwarzenegger wins lawsuit

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger has won a legal arm-wrestle with French magazine *Voici* for reporting that he had been a client of Heidi Fleiss, the Hollywood madam convicted of pandering. The former Mister Universe did not disclose the amount of the judgement against *Voici* publisher Prisma Presse, but said in a statement that he would donate the money to the Special Olympics. The lawsuit centred on an April 1994 *Voici* article quoting Fleiss employee who said Schwarzenegger had hired one of the madam's prostitutes. The magazine refused to retract the statement at Schwarzenegger's request, his lawyer said. "When publications and tabloids print those statements about me," the millionaire actor said, "I intend to take swift

World News

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 30 1995 5



Cho Nam-Ho (shirtless), chief of the Socho district of Seoul, runs from a mob of family members of the victims of last month's department store collapse as they vent their rage at Mr. Cho for not staying for the full memorial service for the

victims of the collapse in Seoul. Mr. Cho was punched, kicked and struck by various objects as about 20 victim's family members beat on him. His present condition is unknown (Reuter photo)

Official assaulted over S. Korean store collapse

SEOUL (R) — A senior city official was assaulted by angry relatives Saturday when he attended a memorial service for victims of last month's Seoul department store collapse which killed at least 458 people, people, witnesses said.

Cho Nam-Ho, chief administrator of Seoul's Socho dis-

trict, an upmarket residential area where the store is located, was kicked and punched by dozens of relatives when he was about to leave to memorial hall after attending the service.

"Cho managed to escape from the hall after about 10 minutes and received treat-

ment for bruises at hospital," one witness said.

The official death toll from the collapse of Sampoong Department Store was 458 Saturday, with 93 still listed missing.

Search operations have been suspended at the site while officials search for bodies that might be in the

tonnes of rubble from the store dumped on the outskirts of Seoul.

The collapse was the latest of a string of man-made disasters in recent years which have raised questions about safety standards and embarrassed the government of President Kim Young-Sam.

Spaniards doubt Gonzalez on GAL

MADRID (R) — Most Spaniards are not convinced Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez was telling parliament the truth when he said he was unaware of the creation of anti-ETA death squads, a poll said Saturday.

The poll, published by El Mundo newspaper, found 63 per cent believed he knew about the anti-terrorist Liberation Groups (GAL) and 59 per cent thought he should resign.

Mr. Gonzalez appeared in parliament Thursday in response to claims by a former Socialist leader in the Basque country, Ricardo Garcia Daborena, that he had

known about the GAL. The prime minister has said he will take legal action against Mr. Garcia Daborena for these allegations but the judge investigating the GAL case, Baltasar Garzon, Friday referred the case to the Supreme Court.

GAL killed 27 people in all during the 1980s in a series of undercover operations against ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom).

The government issued a statement Friday deplored that the contents of Mr. Garzon's report to the Supreme Court, which is sub judice, should have been leaked to the media.

Italy's Bossi probed over remarks

MANTUA, Italy (R) — Magistrates said Saturday they had opened an investigation into Umberto Bossi, the fiery leader of Italy's federal Northern League, after reports that he had made sexist remarks.

Giulio Tamburini, deputy prosecutor in the northern city of Mantua, confirmed that Mr. Bossi was being probed for the possible crime of "threatening the integrity, independence of unity of the state."

President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro said Mr. Bossi had gone

too far. "Threatening actions not envisaged under the constitution, in the event that one's own arguments are failing, is illegitimate as well as being undemocratic," Mr. Scalfaro said.

The Northern League was part of the government of former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi until Mr. Bossi withdrew his support in December, causing the centre-right coalition to collapse after just seven months in office.

Two more, including the brother of a PPP councillor, were shot dead and three others were injured in the central district, in an attack by unidentified armed gunmen riding two motorcycles.

The violence has decreased lately, amid a stepped-up crackdown by police and paramilitary troopers and talks between the Pakistani government and the opposition Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM).

The last MQM government meeting took place here Monday and another round is scheduled for July 31 in Islamabad.

But, the head of MQM negotiating team, Ajmal Dheli, said Saturday the party had not yet decided whether to go to the next round of talks, which would depend on the government's response to MQM demands.

MQM is demanding that the Mohajir community be given a share of federal and provincial jobs, the holding of municipal elections in Sind, of which Karachi is the capital, and dropping of criminal charges against party leaders.

The group is blamed by the government for much of the bloodshed in Karachi. But, it accuses the government of suppressing and victimising Mohajirs, who migrated to Pakistan from India after the 1947 partition of the sub-continent.

Armed rebellion broke out in Kashmir in 1990 after a steady build up of resentment against New Delhi's ruling Congress Party and the locally popular National Conference, which formed an electoral alliance in 1987.

Police and hospital sources

agreed this week to transfer three IRA prisoners from England to jails in Northern Ireland where they will be nearer their families.

London is concentrating its efforts on insisting the IRA surrenders all its weapons before all-party talks can start to hammer out a future for the region.

The Dublin releases angered Protestants in Northern Ireland and some British Conservative members of parliament.

He said people had told him that until the arms issue was settled, they would find it difficult to accept the verbal assurances of former paramilitaries.

But he acknowledged that progress had been made on the issues of releasing prisoners and negotiations.

Britain Friday lifted a 10-year ban on state funds for community groups suspected of channeling aid to armed groups in Northern Ireland.

The announcement by Sir Patrick, after nearly 12 months of a truce by the IRA and Protestant gunmen, coincided with the European Union's announcement of an Irish aid package.

"We want to know as a people exactly the pace at which the peace process is going on," he told BBC Radio Ulster. "We have the right, I believe, to know exactly what the options are."

In a reference to recent meetings between Ulster Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew and Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams, he said such covert discussions undermined

The EU will give £351 million (\$562 million) to help the British-ruled province and the five countries of the Irish Republic that border it.

The money will be spent over three years to encourage investment, improve education and develop crossborder links between the mainly Protestant North and the overwhelmingly Catholic south, EU spokesman said.

Speaking on the same programme Friday, Mr. Bhutto said the Pakistani government for the ethnic violence currently raging in Karachi, where more than 1,000 people have been killed since January.

"After that, five bodies were recovered from the

China seeks U.S. commitment to limit contacts with Taiwan

Washington's old adversary Vietnam, which joined the ASEAN Friday.

Mr. Shen said Washington "should make a commitment" that "Taiwan relations shall be strictly limited" to "non-government" contacts under the three point communiques governing Sino-U.S. relations.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang said only a clear-cut American commitment to keep links with Taiwan unofficial could improve relations, which plunged after a U.S. visit by Taiwanese President Lee Teng Hui in June.

Mr. Shen, interviewed on the sidelines of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) annual meeting in the capital of Brunei, also said the arrest of a Chinese-American activist was not a diplomatic issue.

Mr. Qian and Mr. Christopher will attend an ASEAN security forum. Bilateral ties are at their lowest level since the 1989 massacre of pro-democracy protesters in Beijing.

The Taiwan issue is the central issue to be resolved.

Asked if Beijing wanted a blanket ban on U.S. visits by Mr. Lee, he replied: "It is up to them to take the concrete actions. They know what the concrete actions should be."

But Mr. Christopher said in Washington Friday that the United States will not agree to a prohibition on future U.S. visits by the president of Taiwan, which China regards as a renegade province.

Mr. Christopher is expected to arrive here Monday as part of a major Asian visit culminating in the normalization of relations with

Kashmir leaders reject India's election plans

KARACHI (AFP) — At least five people including the brother of a ruling Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) councilor were shot dead Saturday in this strife-torn Pakistani port city, police and hospital sources said.

Two people were killed in sniper fire in the city's west end district, while the bullet-ridden body of another was found in Liaquatabad, a central district neighbourhood, police said.

Mr. Christopher is expected to arrive here Monday as part of a major Asian visit culminating in the normalization of relations with

say more than 20,000 people have been killed since violence erupted in the state.

India accuses Pakistan of fomenting separatism in Kashmir and aiding and abetting the militants. Islamabad says it gives only moral and diplomatic support.

"Elections are a futile exercise aimed more at impressing the West by telling them that democratic process has been started in the state," Hurriyat President Mirwais Omar Farooq said.

Plans to hold elections this month fell through after a Kashmir shrine at Charara Sharif was burnt down in May. India accused militants of razing the shrine, but the guerrillas blamed the Indian army.

"This could go on for a while," one diplomat said.

The previously unknown Al Faran captured Britons Keith Mangani and Paul Wells, American Donald Hutchings, German Dirk Hasert and Norwegian Hans Ostro while they were trekking in India's northern state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The American and two Britons were kidnapped on July 4, and the German and Norwegian on July 8.

Al Faran demanded that India release some 20 Kashmiri separatists from jail, but New Delhi has said it will not exchange militants for the hostages.

The captors set a deadline

to the legal system."

Mr. Shen conceded that it was not a purely internal Chinese affair "because he is an American citizen, but he violated Chinese law."

Mr. Qian met Saturday with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev who pledged that his country would abide by a "one China" policy, Mr. Shen said. The two ministers also agreed to step up the frequency of their contacts.

The U.S.-China rift has worried Asian nations.

Singapore Foreign Minister S. Jayakumar, speaking at the opening of the annual ASEAN ministerial meeting, said the grouping "cannot rest easy until this major bilateral relationship is repaired and restored to a healthy relationship."

Washington should realize "the importance of adherence to the spirit and principles of the three Sino-U.S. joint communiques," and should take effective measures in this regard."

Mr. Lee, whose country has become an economic powerhouse with extensive investments overseas, has been raising Taiwan's international profile by making ostensibly private visits to countries which officially recognize only Beijing.

The arrest of a Chinese-American activist, Harry Wu, on espionage charges, trade disputes and reported Chinese missile sales to Pakistan also figure in the Sino-U.S. squabble.

Mr. Shen said the arrest of Mr. Wu, who has allegedly confessed to fabricating videos about prison labour in China, was not a diplomatic issue.

"We always maintained that it has nothing to do with China-U.S. relations," he said in the interview. "It is up

to the Chinese to decide what to do."

He also cited the "problem that the dynamic economic growth that is spurring integration is at the same time creating new tensions, as there is a competition for resources and markets."

In the speech, Mr. Christopher reassured U.S. determination to remain a leader in Asia and outlined the Clinton administration's four-part strategy of involvement.

He is on a rescue mission to stabilise badly damaged relations with China.

He also aims to close the book on America's bitter Indochina war legacy by beginning to craft a new relationship with Vietnam.

The secretary makes an overnight stop in Hawaii before arriving in Brunei Monday.

After Brunei, Mr. Christopher will become the first U.S. secretary of state to visit Cambodia in four decades and the first to visit Vietnam since U.S. troops were withdrawn from the country 22 years ago in a humiliating military defeat.

After spending the first half of the year largely focused on Europe," Mr. Christopher looks toward Asia at what many officials consider a critical juncture for U.S. policy toward the region.

"This region is now remarkably free of conflict," Mr. Christopher told the national Press Club Friday in a broad speech about U.S. Asia policy.

"But while no major power views another power as an immediate military threat, there is a considerable danger that age-old rivalries could be rekindled," he said.

He also cited the "problem that the dynamic economic growth that is spurring integration is at the same time creating new tensions, as there is a competition for resources and markets."

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Meanwhile, diplomats said they saw no quick breakthrough for five Western tourists held by shadowy militants in Kashmir as a three-week-old hostage crisis showed no signs of easing Saturday.

"This could go on for a while," one diplomat said.

The previously unknown Al Faran captured Britons Keith Mangani and Paul Wells, American Donald Hutchings, German Dirk Hasert and Norwegian Hans Ostro while they were trekking in India's northern state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Indian authorities have had on-and-off contact with the captors, diplomats said. Al Faran, which had issued several statements, has not been heard from for nearly a week.

Rugged Kashmir has had to grapple with four separate bomb blasts that killed 25 people as well as torrential rain which has triggered flooding, killing nearly 50 people in the past week.

The deluge, which has brought down temperatures and made travel treacherous, has raised worries about the condition of the hostages, who in a message earlier this month said they were being made to move long distances to elude authorities.

Al Faran said one of the hostages, which the group did not name, was in serious condition following a gun battle with Indian forces. The government denied any clash.

The captors set a deadline

KIGALI (R) — Rwandan soldiers hacked a senior Hutu government official and his two children to death before setting alight their house in the central town of Ruhango on Thursday night, diplomats said.

The group is blamed by the government for much of the bloodshed in Ruhango. But, it accuses the government of suppressing and victimising Mohajirs, who migrated to Ruhango from India after the 1947 partition of the sub-continent.

Armed rebellion broke out in Ruhango in 1990 after a steady build up of resentment against New Delhi's ruling Congress Party and the locally popular National Conference, which formed an electoral alliance in 1987.

"There needs to be a change of heart. India first has to accept that Mohajirs are not the only ones who have rebelled against its administration. The core issue has to be discussed," he said.

"The 20,000 people who have died, have given their blood for a cause, not for elections," Mr. Farooq said, adding that until India and

Pakistan sorted out their differences over Kashmir and involved Kashmiri in their talks no solution could be found.

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Progress in speaking out

THE FACT that an Arab Human Rights Organisation exists at all and it investigates then publishes reports on the condition of human rights in the Arab World is positive and encouraging. Such has the case been since the establishment in 1987 of the Arab Organisation for Human Rights (AOHR).

The conclusions that AOHR reached in its report for 1994 is, however, distressing. The organisation says that Arab human rights did in fact deteriorate in 1994 after improvements were registered in the late 1980s.

"We recorded some positive steps, but the total shows a continuing erosion of legal guarantees and the occurrence of extreme violation of human rights," the organisation's secretary general, Mohammad Faqiq, said in a statement earlier this week.

After enumerating the most disturbing violations — including torture, mass executions, long-term detention, amputation of limbs, producing false witnesses, falsifying documents, etc. — the group recorded a "counter legislative trend which tends to weaken legal guarantees and harshen punishment." In other words, these practices have made abuse of human rights a legal matter. This of course is worse than violations made under eras of martial laws in the Arab World since such laws are being enforced on people through weak and in many instances puppet parliaments.

One example that AOHR gave on this was the infamous Egyptian "law of defamation" which, aiming to protect officials from allegations of corruption, meant to muzzle the press by imposing heavy fines and jail sentences on "violating" journalists. Although the Egyptian government was able to pass the law through the single-party dominated Parliament, the journalists, have forced the government to retract the legislation and appoint a committee to reconsider the legislation.

One way to resist government tendency to be brutal or legalise brutality is certainly found in the work of such grassroots organisations as AOHR or journalists' associations. It is encouraging in this regard to note that some Jordanian newspapers have carried the organisation's report. At this stage the mere fear of exposing human rights abuses in the Arab World will lay the ground for the elimination of many violations, including the denial of people's political rights.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily Saturday wondered about the complete silence of Pope John Paul II vis-a-vis the genocide being committed in Bosnia against the Muslims at the hands of Christians. Sultan Al Hattab, also wondered why the Eastern churches are silent with regard to the events; and asked about the numerous Christian-Muslim dialogues which we have heard about. What we are witnessing is the beginning of a new kind of conflict between religions, following the end of the cold war between the East and West, said the writer. The silence of the Vatican and the Eastern churches vis-a-vis the events in Bosnia is adding to our fears and apprehensions and we are appalled at Europe's indifference to what is happening in Bosnia where thousands of women, children and innocent people are being massacred, he added. The writer said scientists, political leaders and heads of international organisations are all silent and condoning the denial of Bosnia's right to arm itself to fend off the aggression, while the Arab and Islamic nations are showing cowardice and not rallying to help their brothers and sisters. The writer condemned what he called the annihilation of the Muslims in Europe.

A WRITER in Al Dustour said that Washington will commit a grave error if it decides to extradite the leader of the political wing of Hamas to Israel. Saleh Qallab said Washington must realise that the extradition will not weaken Hamas or the other forces which it considers as terrorists; neither will it help curb reprisals. The Hamas leader has been legally living in the United States and his arrest can only receive strong condemnation by the Arab and Muslim nations as a conspiracy on the part of the United States against the Arabs and Muslims, said the writer. The arrest came at a time when Hamas was reportedly contemplating transforming itself into a political party, bent on opposing normalisation with Israel and therefore his arrest is regarded as a means for foiling such tendency and keeping the Palestinian lands in turmoil, he added. Demanding that Washington release the Hamas leader, the writer said that the U.S. authorities ought to treat him as a leader of a political and national movement seeking freedom from occupation.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Agricultural agreement around the corner

THE JORDANIAN-Israeli peace treaty called for the finalisation of all supplementary agreements and new laws within nine months of its signing. Since the treaty was signed on Oct. 26, 1994, the deadline fell due last Wednesday, July 26.

However, it seems that both parties are not in a hurry to finish the job on time, especially under the new political doctrine put forward by Israeli officials, namely that dates in the agreements are not sacred. Nevertheless, the preliminary drafts of all supplementary agreements are almost ready, but weeks or months are still needed before they are signed.

A tourism agreement was already signed. At the time, we noted that it did not create anything new or alter any situation. Most likely the two parties need not refer to any article in that agreement to support a point of view. The importance of signing a tourism agreement lies in the fact that an agreement was concluded and signed, and that an item on the agenda was implemented.

The crucial agreement is that which will cover trade. It has many controversial points of view and conflicting interests. The trade agreement was delayed due to a basic difference in understanding, a requirement by the peace treaty. The delay in reaching a commercial agreement put all other agreements on hold. It does not make sense to sign agreements on activities such as transport or agriculture before a trade agreement is finalised.

The point of disagreement was whether the treaty called for the establishment of free zones, as Jordan thinks it did,

or for the establishment of a free trade agreement as Israeli negotiators insist. It seems that the recent meeting on the political level between the ministers of industry and trade of the countries resolved this point by accepting the principle of a free trade area, but without setting a target date for its implementation, which means it is left until such time when the Jordanian economy becomes ready for this big step.

The draft of the agricultural agreement was recently discussed and evaluated by the Ministerial Development Council, which decided that some stipulations should be renegotiated to clarify some ambiguous wordings and avoid future misunderstandings.

We were told that, in general, the agricultural agreement is favourable to Jordan, and that Israel undertook to import certain quantities of agricultural products, including a minimum of 50 thousand tonnes of fresh vegetables and fruits every year, 900 tonnes of olive oil and other specified amounts of white cheese and live sheep, all duty free and without a corresponding commitment on behalf of Jordan.

Since the Jordanian-Israeli agreements must be executed sooner or later in accordance with provisions of the peace treaty, and since they are favourable to Jordan, as claimed by the government, it is advisable that Jordan should fulfill all requirements and make Israel responsible for any delay.

It is also useful to publish the draft agreements, even though they are not in a final shape, in order to allow those whose interests may be affected to express opinions and lobby for the protection of their legitimate interests.

LETTERS

The shame of the West

To the Editor:

SITTING BEFORE our TV screens and watching the continuous suffering and humiliation of innocent Bosnian civilians is not only appalling but also outrageous and beyond human comprehension. However, what seems to be more horrifying is having to face a pathetically indifferent Western community which has little to say and nothing to do regarding genocide and ethnic cleansing.

What we see today, and what we have been seeing during the past three years, the course of the raging conflict in former Yugoslavia is not only a policy of "double standards" and "hypocrisy" displayed by the Western countries in their fruitless effort to resolve the conflict, but beyond any doubt, the attitude of an accomplice to a crime.

The West should be ashamed of its failure to restrain a "fascist on the go" right in their backyard, and for failing to secure fundamental human rights to peoples in the heart of their civilised world.

Under the present circumstances, why should we continue to admire Western achievements and believe in Western rhetoric about peaceful coexistence among peoples of all faiths?

Mrs. Rumiana M. Nuseibeh, Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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German excavations fill in gaps in historical development of Gadara (Umm Qais)

This is the second article of a two-part series; part one appeared in yesterday's newspaper.

Text and photos by Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

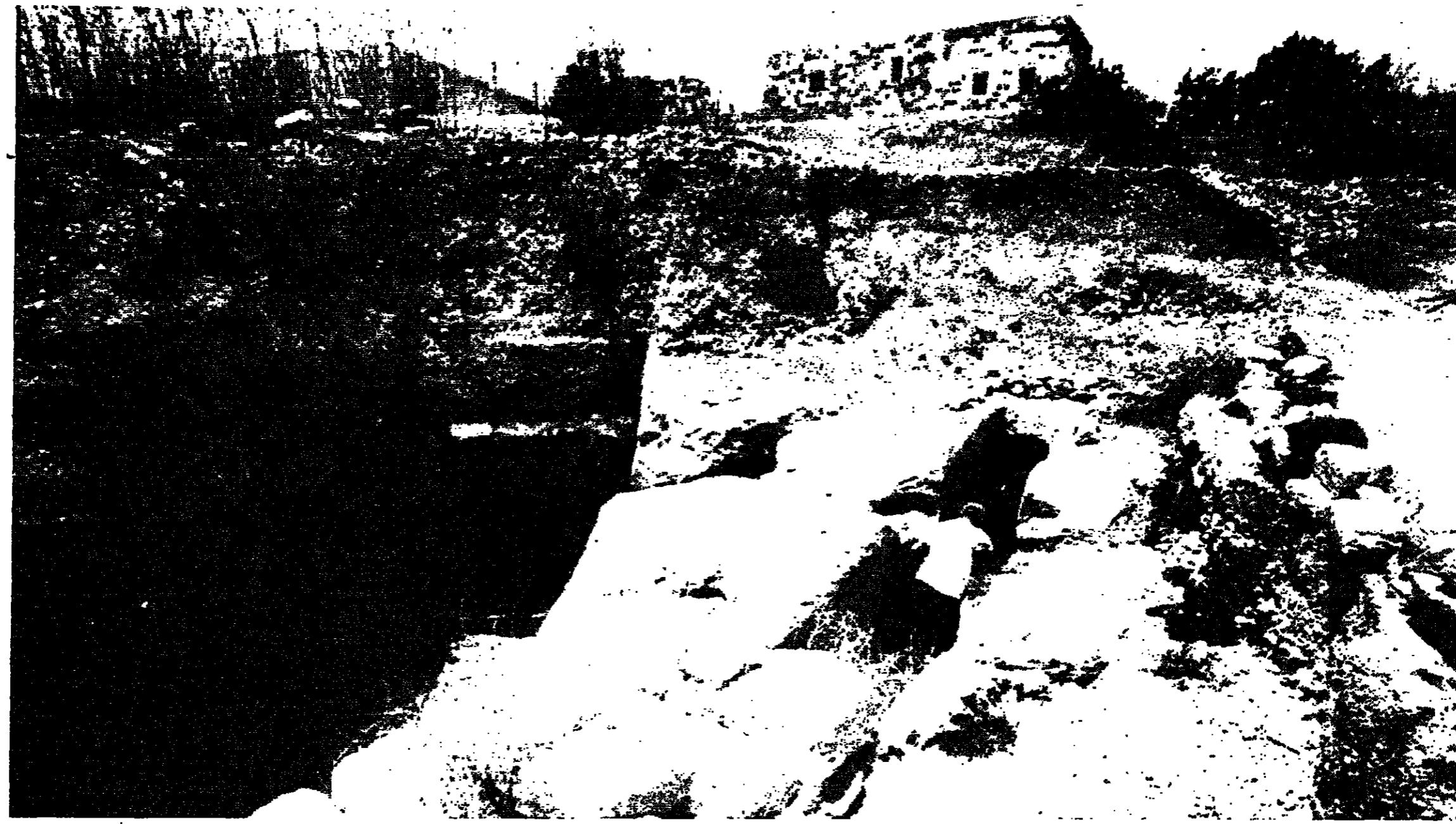
ONE OF the most fascinating recent discoveries at Gadara (Umm Qais) is the Greco-Roman system of water tunnels carved beneath the citadel hill, and used to channel water from the spring east of the city to the city-centre. The two tunnels are each some 400 metres long because of their winding passage through the hill. They varied in height from 160 cm to nearly two metres, and in width from 100 cm to over 150 cm. The tunnels have both been fully excavated, but are closed for safety reasons. Plans are being made to provide access for visitors to a short stretch of one tunnel.

One of the tunnels was completed and used, the second was fully dug but never completely finished inside or used. Visitors can appreciate the tunnels by inspecting their entrances, which also show the excavation techniques used to dig them. Just down the path leading east from the museum, near the entrance to a tomb, is the entrance to the tunnel that was completed and used. The artificially built channel approaching the hillside gradually changes into a cut channel and then into a tunnel fully dug out of the natural rock. Still visible on the walls are trowel marks from the plasterers in Roman times.

A few metres to the east of the tomb and tunnel entrances, directly beneath the walking path leading to the museum, are the remains of one of the arches that carried the aqueduct over the shallow valley immediately to the east. Ms. Kerner's team identified 11 piers that once formed the supports for the arches that carried the aqueduct, but no full arches remain standing today. The aqueduct was the last stretch of a channel that brought water to Gadara from the 'Ain et-Trab spring, some 11 kilometres to the east.

From the aqueduct, water passed into a small distribution system that included a weir that was opened or closed by hand to control the flow of water into the tunnels. On the surface of the path are visible two stones with two notches in them (two other matching stones are longer); thin basalt slabs were inserted into the notches to control the water flow.

Inside the tunnels, the walls and floors were fully plastered, and every 30-35 metres there is a cut entrance/exit tunnel going up to the surface of the ground, with a rock-cut



The entrance to one of the water tunnels, next to the door of a tomb

staircase. Many large niches filled with concrete throughout the tunnels may have been designed to stabilise the walls. Pipes exit the tunnels at regular intervals and head in a northerly direction, but these have not been located or traced within the city. They probably supplied the northern residential quarters of the city. At one point inside the hill, the two tunnels cross over one another.

The tunnel that was completed and used has a distribution point just a few metres from its exit from the hill. This consisted of the main, 1.6-metre-deep water channel; a second, smaller channel (comprising ceramic pipes) that was used when excess water was available; and a third channel that paralleled the main channel and shared a built wall with it, and that was only used when excess water was available from the first two channels.

The two main water tunnels entered the city at two points: the unfinished one entered behind the terrace church (east of the collapsed terrace wall) and the finished one ended at a point behind the north-east corner of the terrace, next to the staircase to the rest-house. This latter entry

Clearing the Roman theatre

One of the most striking pieces of work underway at Umm Qais is the clearance of the black basalt theatre. Simple clearance of the tumbled stones has exposed parts of the orchestra and seats, making the theatre even more impressive than ever before in recent history. Names of individuals have been identified on some seats throughout the theatre, probably reflecting their "ownership" of the seats.

Similar water tunnels have been studied in other parts of the country, including Abila, Beit Ras and Zerakun. The Umm Qais system cannot be dated any more precisely than to the late Hellenistic/early Roman period; though ceramic and other material remains were found inside the tunnels, these could not be used to firmly date the structures, because the remains could have entered the tunnels at any time. There are no foundation trenches to help date the construction, as the tunnels were cut directly into the bedrock.

A theory now being assessed is that the second tunnel was dug in the 3rd century AD, when the city

expansion also included the construction of the hippodrome and monumental gate at its western end. Those structures were never completed due to lack of finances in a politically difficult period, and the second tunnel project was probably stopped for the same reason.

small fragment with Greek writing, both of which help pin down the Ptolemaic foundation of the city.

A long gallery displays some of the finest statues excavated at the site, and a new room is being prepared to display some of the smaller finds, including pottery, bone pieces, a tabun, and lead and clay water pipes.

In the courtyard west of the museum, a new vaulted passage has been built to display some of the mosaic floors excavated from the baths of Harakleides in the 1980s by Dr. Ute Wagner-Lux. The 4th-6th century AD geometric pattern mosaics include a Greek inscription noting that bathers were welcomed to the baths by a certain Gadarene nobleman named Harakleides, who paid for the construction of the complex.

The work of the last five years has been financed by the German Protestant Institute for Archaeology of the Holy Land, the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin, the Gerd-Henkel Foundation, the German Research Foundation, the German Foreign Ministry via the German embassy in Amman, the Technical University at Cottbus and the Department of Antiquities of Jordan.

Filling in historical gaps

Perhaps the historically most significant aspect of the work that has been carried out in the last five years at Umm Qais has been the discovery of substantial remains from three kinds of ancient structures and two periods that are not well documented in Jordan: Roman era domestic quarters, Hellenistic period monumental architecture (city walls), and Hellenistic/Roman era water systems.

Though Jordan has substantial remains of several Greco-Roman cities that were members of the regional association of cities known as the Decapolis, no significant Roman housing areas had ever been excavated before the recent work at Umm Qais. The full analysis of the pottery and other material remains from Umm Qais will allow for a more precise reconstruction of the material culture over a period of nearly one thousand years, from the early 3rd century BC to the early 7th century AD.

The work that Adolf Hoffmann has done on the city walls is clarifying the expansion (and possible contraction) of the city over the centuries. Later this year he will carry out a comprehensive survey of all known parts of the ancient city walls, in order to delineate the size and shape of the city as it changed over time.

The wall paintings in the Roman era domestic quarters are also particularly important, even enigmatic: it seems peculiar to find such good quality paintings covering all the walls of what appear to be rather modest, ordinary homes, and not monumental public

buildings or large, ornate villas where one would expect to find such paintings. Ms. Kerner is now studying parallel from other parts of this region, such as those known from southern Turkey, to come up with an explanation for the Gadara house paintings.

The substantial Hellenistic city wall remains and the water tunnels may prompt a revision of the traditional history of Jordan, whose only previously-known Hellenistic era monuments were the palace at Iraq el-Amir, near Wadi Seer west of Amman, the Hellenistic Zeus Sanctuary still being excavated at Jerash, and partial architectural remains at Pella and Petra. The extensive rebuilding of city sites in the Roman, Byzantine and early Islamic periods usually removed any traces of earlier Hellenistic structures, but the new work at Umm Qais now raises a faint hope of one day finding a Hellenistic house, or even a neighbourhood within the city walls. This makes the task of preserving and presenting the excavated antiquities to local and international visitors even more important, given the rarity of good quality Hellenistic remains in Jordan.

Serbs torch Zepa

(Continued from page 1)

fight," he said. "Now we have a very serious situation with the Croat army operating inside Bosnia as well."

Calling a U.N. pullout a "nightmare scenario," he said it might nevertheless become inevitable and would involve sending in 60,000 men to get 30,000 out.

In a warning to Croatia, Krajina Serb army commander General Mile Mrksic told the U.N. commander for former Yugoslavia, General Bernard Janvier of France, that his forces would "no longer tolerate Croatian provocations and would hold the peacekeeping troops and the international community responsible for the consequences of the Croatian attacks."

Krajina Serb "president" Milan Martic — who was charged with war crimes by a U.N. tribunal this week — wrote to the U.N. Security Council accusing the Croats of committing atrocities against Serb civilians, Mr. Tanjug reported.

Congress vote on lifting arms

In Washington, the U.S. House of Representatives will likely vote early Monday on lifting the arms embargo against Bosnia, the head of a key congressional panel said Friday.

"We're about to go to the Rules Committee in an hour and ask that it be put on (the

agenda) as early as possible next week," Benjamin A. Gilman, Chairman of the International Relations Committee, told reporters.

Rep. Chris Smith, a leading Republican member of the Foreign Affairs panel, predicted there would be enough votes not only to approve the bill, but to pass it over the expected veto from President Clinton. That would require a two-thirds vote.

He said the vote could come as early as next Monday.

The bill to lift the U.N. embargo passed the Senate earlier last week by 69 votes, two more than would be needed to override a presidential veto. But some senators may change their vote if the comes.

Passage of matching legislation by the house is a virtual certainty. Last month, the House overwhelmingly approved a non-binding measure to repeal the embargo.

Meanwhile, U.S. officials have moved swiftly to forestall more strains with U.S. allies over Bosnia by denying news reports saying that the U.S. was supplying arms to the Bosnian government.

But Mr. Clinton's press secretary Michael McCurry did say that the administration had some information about arms transfers into Bosnia. He said it was possible some U.S.-made arms were shipped.

"There is perhaps a new type of terrorist attack, because there has not been a claim of responsibility" fol-

lowing the bus bombing on Monday at Ramat Gan, Mr. Rabin told state radio.

He said it was possible the group behind the attack had failed to produce the usual video identifying the suicide bomber either to prevent political damage to the Palestinian Authority or because the bomber had come from abroad.

"Maybe the terrorist came from abroad. But even if that is the case, he certainly benefitted from help on the ground," said Mr. Rabin.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudi Prince discusses trade cooperation with Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister flew in Saturday to discuss trade and transport agreements and other bilateral and regional issues with Syrian officials. Shortly after his arrival Prince Saud Al Faisal and his counterpart, Farouk Al Sharara, convened a Saudi-Syrian joint committee created two years ago to promote cooperation between the two countries. Prince Saud told the meeting that he hoped the discussions would lead to an increase in trade and promote plans that would facilitate land transport and upgrade air flights between the two countries.

Katyushas crash on Israel's 'security zone'

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (AP) — Three Katyusha rockets crashed onto Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon, without causing injuries, an Israeli-backed militia said Saturday. The South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia's radio said the rockets exploded late Friday near a hospital in Marjayoun, where the Israeli army and the SLA have their headquarters in the border zone. There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Marjayoun is often the target of Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas fighting against Israeli occupation.

UAE telethon raises \$43 million for Bosnia

ABU DHABI (AP) — A nationwide telethon for the Muslims of Bosnia raised more than 158 dirhams (\$43 million) in donations and pledges, announces said Saturday. The midday-to-midnight telethon Friday was extended several hours because offers continued to pour in with contributions and pledges exceeding expectations. The UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, said at the outset he hoped the fund-raisers would draw at least twice the government's donation of 40 million dirhams (\$1 million). Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic praised the telethon campaign in a live interview from Washington. "It's not only a campaign to collect donations, but it's a principle stand on the part of UAE which deserves respect and appreciation," Mr. Silajdzic said.

Iraq plans to build tunnel under Tigris

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Iraq plans to build its first tunnel under the Tigris River running through the capital, Industry Minister Hussein Kamil Hassan announced Saturday. Mr. Hassan, who also heads the country's Military Industrialisation Organisation, said the work in southern Baghdad would start within days. Baghdad has 12 bridges over the Tigris, eight of which were damaged or destroyed in air raids during the 1991 Gulf war. They were rebuilt within 18 months, despite the U.N. embargo in force since Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

Fatah beats Hamas in Gaza election

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah movement beat Hamas to win the elections of the largest professional association in the Gaza Strip. Palestinian officials announced Saturday. They said Fatah, allied with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), another PLO faction which normally sides with the opposition, won seven out of nine seats in the Accountant's Association elections. Hamas and Islamic Jihad, which both oppose the PLO's autonomy deal with Israel like the PFLP, won the other two seats. Bayan Abu Shaaban of Fatah became president and a Hamas member his deputy. Hamas has for the last six years controlled all nine seats in the 1,500-member association, which holds elections every two years.

China pledges no more nuclear tests after 1996

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (AFP) — China pledged Saturday that it would halt its nuclear tests next year after the signing of a test ban treaty as China and France came under renewed fire for breaking a moratorium. Asked about ASEAN concern over the tests, Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofeng said "we will stop nuclear testing after the signing of the comprehensive ban" expected next year. Members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations meeting in Brunei expressed their concern in opening speeches at nuclear tests by China and by France, which is to resume testing in the Pacific in September.

ASEAN moves closer to free trade zone

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (AFP) — Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah opened the annual Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) meeting here Saturday with a call for the creation of a free trade area in the region by 2000, three years ahead of schedule.

Cautioning that other regions were already overtaking ASEAN in economic cooperation and were liberalising their economies to attract investment, the sultan said ASEAN "must respond to this competition."

ASEAN has already accelerated an original 15-year timetable for trade liberalisation among its members, bringing it forward by five years to 2003. But the sultan said this was not enough.

"When ASEAN leaders meet (in a summit) in Bangkok in December this year, I hope ASEAN will be able to announce the completion of AFTA (ASEAN Free Trade Area) by the year 2000," he said.

ASEAN states, he added, had to "take some risk with our overprotected domestic industries if we are not to be left behind."

ASEAN members said that speeding up implementation of AFTA was desirable but presented some challenges, related to the wide divergencies in the economies of member states and their strong domestic industry lobbies.

"If we can have it faster, so much the better," Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said.

"The year 2003 is merely indicative. The sooner we eliminate trade barriers is completed, the sooner we can reap the benefits," Thai Foreign Minister Kasem Sri Kasemsri told the conference.

Speeding up the programme would put greater pressure on ASEAN's latest entry, Vietnam, which has been given until 2006 to catch up with other members because it is still in a transition to a market economy.

But ASEAN states said this was no obstacle and they had always anticipated a two-speed process as potential new members Burma, Cambodia and Laos prepare to join into a Southeast Asia community of 10 by the year 2000.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdulah Ahmad Badawi said he foresees no immediate problems. "Vietnam will be able to 'catch up.' They're hard-working people," he said.

There would be a "period of adjustment for those joining later," said the Malaysian ministry's secretary-general, Ahmad Kamal Jaafar.

ASEAN now groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Cambodia this week joined Laos as an official observer. Burma is attending for the second year as a guest of the host government.

Laotian Foreign Minister Somsavath Lengsavad announced Saturday that his

achieved the production target it had set early this year," the report said.

It put crude reserves at around 4.94 billion barrels and gas at 600 billion cubic metres.

According to the report, OPEC has introduced the advanced horizontal drilling techniques, which costs more than the vertical drilling but yields as much as four times.

"More concessions will be offered to oil companies in the next few months. This will hopefully boost our crude reserves," an official said.

Oman is also planning to build an \$8 billion gas liquefaction plant with an output capacity of around six million tonnes per year. It will be its first LNG project and the third in the Gulf after that in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and a planned complex in Qatar.

Oman boosts oil output to record level

MUSCAT (AFP) — Oman has introduced advanced technology to boost crude production to its highest level since the Gulf state discovered oil nearly two decades ago, an official report said on Saturday.

Production peaked at 853,000 barrels per day (bpd) by the end of May compared with an average 800,000 bpd in 1994, said the report by Oman Petroleum Development (OPD), which controls the country's energy sector.

OPD alone produced around 804,000 bpd in May while the rest came from foreign oil companies operating in Oman, it said.

Production by the company reached a record level in the week that ended on May 24, standing at 811,000 bpd. The company has

achieved the production target it had set early this year," the report said.

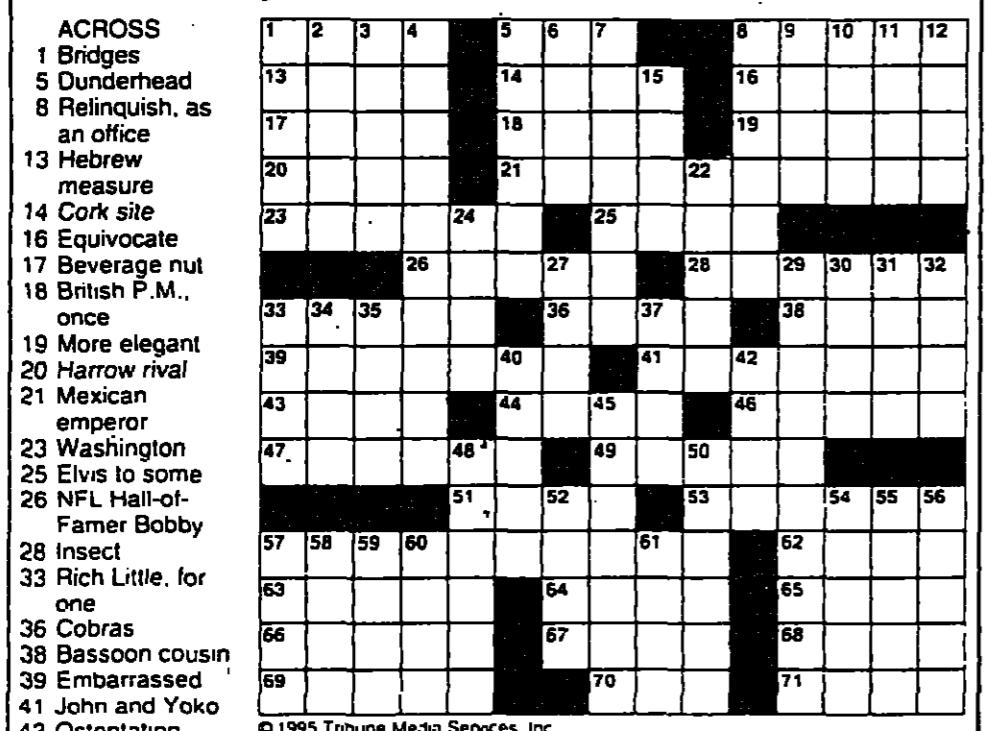
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Early this month, the government granted a new concession to the French Total company with an area of 26,000 square kilometres.

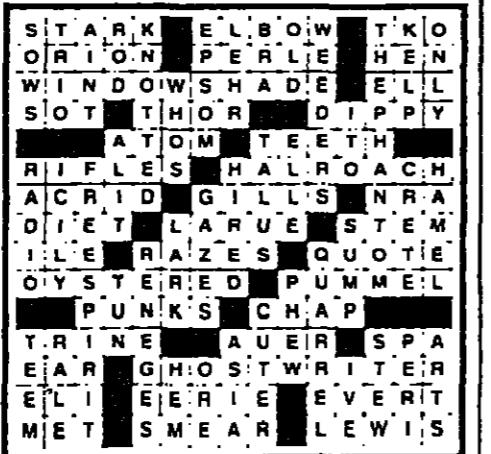
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THE Daily Crossword by William Canine



Puzzle solved:



ACROSS
1 Bridges
5 Dunderhead
8 Relinquish, as an office
13 Hebrew measure
14 Cork site
16 Equivocate
17 Beverage nut
18 British P.M., once
19 More elegant
20 Harrow rival
21 Mexican emperor
23 Washington
25 Elvis to some
26 NFL Hall-of-Famer Bobby
28 Insect
33 Rich Little, for one
36 Cobras
38 Bassoon cousin
39 Embarrassed
41 John and Yoko
43 Ostentation
44 Buddhist monk
46 Long-running Broadway play
47 Notorious bloodsucker
49 Loire Valley region
51 Augury
53 Combines
57 Infamous inquisitor
62 Alien pret
63 Hiroshima, Mon —

64' Borodin prince
65 Prenger
66 Crazed
67 Rough-hewn
68 Allowance for waste
69 Babble on
70 Woodsman's tool
71 All — (acutely attentive)

72 Telegraph man
24 Ape
27 Nothing in Nogales
29 Woeful knight
30 — Ben Adhem
31 Not upper-class, in England
32 Hardy heroine
33 Trading center
34 Long-billed bird
35 Jane to Tarzan
37 Blueprint
40 — figs
42 Gaseous element
45 Central American capital
48 Fount
50 Successor to 21A
52 Arab prince
54 Tropical fish
55 State direction

Kuwaiti Islamic firm to launch property fund

KUWAIT (R) — The International Investor (TII), a Kuwaiti Islamic finance firm, said on Saturday it would launch a \$43.3 million fund for investment in property that it would buy from the state.

"The fund's capital amounts to 13 million dinars (\$43.3 million) with 13 million units of one dinar (\$3.3)," TII said in a statement announcing the August 5 launch.

"The post-cold war honeymoon phase is over," he said, citing potential problems over human rights, democracy, trade, intellectual property rights and investments.

He also mentioned possible problems over "rights of sea and air passage which have been challenged," apparently referring to territorial disputes involving ASEAN members and outsiders.

Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, China and Taiwan are involved in a dispute over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

The ASEAN ministers were scheduled to hold closed-door sessions Saturday and all day Sunday.

On Tuesday, the ASEAN Regional Forum is to hold its second annual meeting, bringing 19 countries together to discuss security issues.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the ASEAN states will hold their annual dialogue with major trading partners Japan, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the European Union, South Korea and Canada.

The fund will be run according to Islamic finance rules under which profits are shared with investors in place of interest payments, which are banned, it said.

World oil prices lower

LONDON (R) — World oil prices fell late on Friday as a rally in the U.S. faded but failed to dent a consolidation of gains achieved earlier in the week.

September London futures for Benchmark North Sea Brent blend closed down 10 cents at \$16.01 a barrel.

"A close above \$15.96/\$15.98 means Brent is still in a higher range, but it's not explosively bullish," said Alair Harris of London Broker Mees Pierson.

Traders said U.S. demand for Transatlantic crude imports remained a key factor.

Early this month, the government granted a new concession to the French Total company with an area of 26,000 square kilometres.

"More concessions will be offered to oil companies in the next few months. This will hopefully boost our crude reserves," an official said.

Oman is also planning to build an \$8 billion gas liquefaction plant with an output capacity of around six million tonnes per year. It will be its first LNG project and the third in the Gulf after that in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and a planned complex in Qatar.

U.S. crude stocks now around 20 million barrels lower than a year ago may have reached a floor.

"We may be getting very clever at living with low stocks nowadays, but it can't go on for ever," one trader said with a U.S. refining company.

Mild early losses on Friday were reversed when news of a fire at a Texan oil refinery unit gave U.S. gasoline markets a lift.

Four fires at U.S. Gulf Coast refineries over the past two weeks have helped revive western petroleum products markets.

But Friday's rally was short-lived, plentiful supplies of gasoline in the U.S. at the height of the summer driving season exerted downward pressure on prices.

Coffee prices slide

LONDON (R) — Coffee prices extended a slide on Friday, surrendering gains made earlier this week when Brazil and other producer nations struck a deal to try to curb exports.

London September-delivery robusta futures ended at \$2,685 per tonne, down from almost \$2,825 on Wednesday, as speculators took profits.

Wednesday's advance in coffee prices followed news that the Association of Coffee Producing Countries (ACPC) had set a limit on exports of 60.4 million bags for the year to June 1996.

The price now compares with \$2,700 on the eve of the ACPC talks. But analysts add that an expectation that the producers would act had been built in to that price.

Prices are also still well above early July values that were scarcely higher than \$2,000 before Brazil and Colombia, the biggest exporters, put together the groundwork for this week's ACPC accord.

"The supply side looks increasingly tight over coming months," said brokerage GNI.

Major global pact on financial services endorsed

GENEVA (AP) — With the United States sitting on the sidelines, the world's key trading nations formally agreed Friday to make it easier for banks, insurance companies and securities firms to do business globally.

American businesses will still benefit from the deal because it will apply to the more than 100 members of the World Trade Organisation — including the United States, Japan, Canada and the European Union, the world's four major traders.

Trade analysts say the most visible effect in many countries will be the appearance of more foreign banks, securities firms and insurance companies.

The accord, which had been in the works for years, came after Japan and South Korea agreed Wednesday to participate. They had balked previously, saying an accord without the United States would give U.S. companies a free ride on world markets.

It was the first trade pact completed under the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the new global trade referee created on Jan. 1. It was also the first major trade agreement since World War II that lacked full American participation.

That means that the benefits have to be extended to other countries with most-favoured-nation status as well. The United States has extended rights on a country-by-country basis, but refused to grant blanket access.

"Before we decided to enter the agreement, we really were trying to get as many other countries as possible to join, including, of course, the United States," said Japanese finance ministry official Norihiro Takasugi. "Without the United States, the agreement is diminished somewhat."

The United States withdrew from negotiations in June because it wanted to reserve the right to close its markets to countries it be-

lieves are too protectionist and use trade sanctions against them. The U.S. financial services market is already relatively open.

American businesses will still benefit from the deal because it will apply to the more than 100 members of the World Trade Organisation — including the United States, Japan, Canada and the European Union, the world's four major traders.

The developing nations argued they needed more time to build up their domestic markets before opening them up to foreign competition.

The United States had seemed on its way to agreeing to the accord but pulled out after opposition mounted from U.S. business interests and the Congress.

The accord expires at the end of 1997, by which time a permanent agreement is to be negotiated. U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said the United States would participate in those talks.

The accord was welcomed in Asia and in Europe.

British Trade Secretary Ian Lang called it "tremendous news for Britain ... good news, too, for the European Union ... and good for the

world trading system."

Michael Cartland, the Hong Kong government's chief of financial services, lamented the U.S. pullout but said "at least this result brings everyone else together, and that's better than nothing, better than a breakdown."

The deal does not include the huge markets of China and Russia, which are still negotiating membership in the WTO.

In the action Friday, the following WTO members agreed to ratify the accord by June 30, 1996: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Slovak Republic, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Venezuela, and the 15 countries of the European Union.

THE BETTER HALF

By Glasbergen

GLASBERGEN

"Our phone isn't out of order — you're talking into the VCR remote!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SWOHE

HELSINKI

NENLI

WHERE THE SCANDINAVIAN MARATHON ENDED.

FONTIY

PLAICH

AT THE

BLIMP FACET BEAFEN VERBAL

Saturday's Jumble:

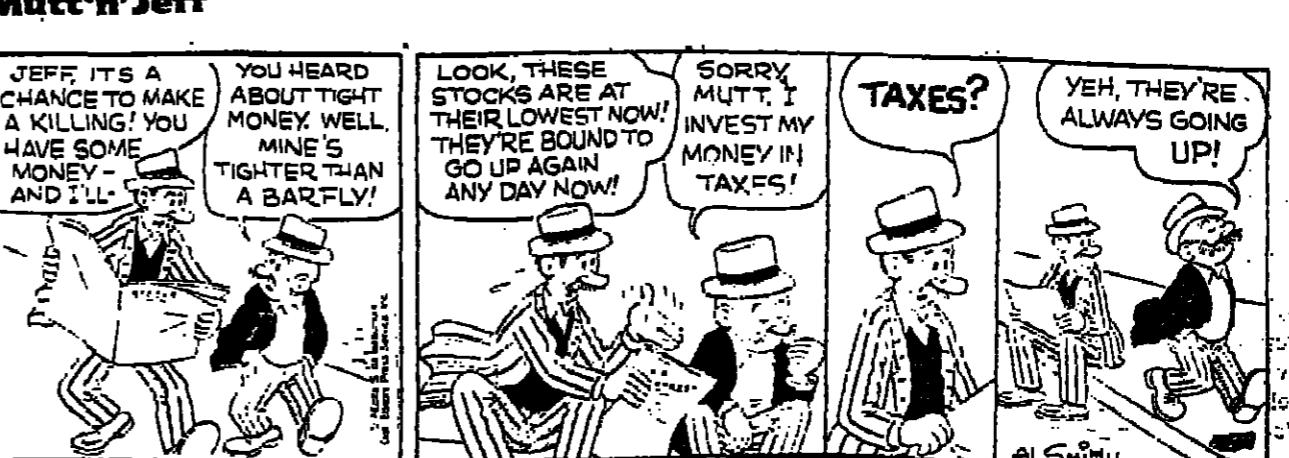
Answer: AT THE BLIMP FACET BEAFEN VERBAL

(Answers tomorrow)

Andy Capp



Mutt'n Jeff



The Ministry of Education has funds enough to teachers loans to housing units during the year. Director of the Ministry of Education said, "The ministry will be able to deal with the cases which, he said, the ministry for enough to deal with, noting that 103 forged referred to it nothing about Dusitour."

The Amman Chamber of Industry received a list from the Ministry of Finance that can benefit from reductions in Japan's treatment systems with advanced countries help developing countries.

Business & Finance

Business Daily Beat

A review
of economic news
from the Arabic press

Forged permits for trucks threaten transport sector

Ministry of Transport officials have confirmed that several forged permits used by trucks to transit Jordan on their way to Arab Gulf countries were discovered. The officials, who were stationed at border crossing points in the north and south of the Kingdom for a 24-hour period, said out of 18 foreign-registered trucks crossing the borders to the Gulf countries, only one had an authentic permit while the rest had forged permits. The issue surfaced after Jordanian truckers complained that foreign truckers were using forged papers to cross Jordan into the neighbouring countries, thus hurting their business. A Jordanian transport office was notified of this fact by its branch in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, complaining that the large number of foreign trucks were posing a great danger to the Jordanian transport sector and national economy as a whole. Officials granting permits at the ministry, who confirmed the forgeries, said they were granting only one or two permits a day to foreign truckers and five to Jordanian counterparts. Another ministry official said all forged documents were referred to the Prosecutor-General for investigation. Director of the North Refrigerated Trucks Services Company Abdul Rahim Al Jammal called on the government to clamp down on all forgery cases which, he said, harm the Kingdom's transport sector and national economy. Mr. Jammal blamed the ministry for not doing enough to deal with the issue, noting that last year, 103 forged permits were referred to it but did nothing about them (Al Dustour).

** The Ministry of Education has allocated funds enough to grant 600 teachers loans to establish housing units during this year. Director of the ministry's Teachers' Housing Fund Handan Al Dib'i said. Mr. Dib'i said the ministry will soon announce the names of the second group of beneficiaries, expected to total 200. He said the first group of beneficiaries totalled 90 teachers who obtained loans worth JD 1,301,000 during June. Saying the second group will include teachers appointed in 1968 and 1969, Mr. Dib'i added that this group will finish all the paper work to obtain the loans at the beginning of August (Al Ra'i).

** The Amman Chamber of Industry recently received a list from the Ministry of Finance defining Jordanian goods that can benefit from customs reductions in Japan in accordance with preferential treatment systems adopted by advanced countries to help developing ones (Al Ra'i).

BCCI appeal trial set to resume

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Several defendants in the BCCI case are to reappear in court in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) capital on Sunday for a fresh appeal session.

Court sources said the trial at the Abu Dhabi criminal court would again be held behind closed doors and 10 former executives of the liquidated Bank of Credit and Commerce International were to attend.

Three others are being tried in absentia: former chief executive, Mohammad Sadeq Nagvi, BCCI founder Agha Hassan Abedi and former treasurer Ziauddin Ali Akbar, all of Pakistani origin.

The defendants were convicted in 1993 of several charges including embezzlement, forgery, breach of trust, dissipation of funds, irregular allocation of dividends and other offences.

They were sentenced in 1994 to prison terms ranging between three and 14 years and ordered to pay around \$9 billion in damages to UAE.

President Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, and other BCCI owners.

Hearings resumed after the prosecution and defence appealed against the verdicts, with the former seeking tougher punishment.

Three of the defendants

are still in jail while five others have been released after completing their prison terms. Another executive was set free for health reasons while one defendant was acquitted.

All of them were to appear in court and those released

have been barred from leaving the country.

Mr. Nagvi was sentenced to 14 years in jail just after he was handed over to the United States to stand trial in connection with the BCCI collapse. He was sentenced to 11 years in prison by a Washington court last year.

Mr. Abedi has retired to his hometown of Lahore since he suffered from a stroke nearly three years ago, while Mr. Akbar was jailed for six years by a British court in 1993 after he was convicted of charges related to the BCCI scandal.

At the last appeal hearing on June 14, the Abu Dhabi court rejected defence requests to release the three jailed defendants on health grounds. The adjournment was to allow prosecution and

defence to present more documents.

BCCI was shut down in July 1991 after allegations of massive fraud involving nearly half its assets of more than \$20 billion.

Its closure and subsequent liquidation triggered a major financial scandal and sent shock waves through banks, mainly in the Gulf.

More than 250,000 depositors are still awaiting the promised 30-40 per cent compensation after an appeal by four creditors at a Luxembourg court this year blocked disbursements. The court is due to consider the appeal in October.

Abu Dhabi, the main oil-producing emirate in the UAE, owned 77 per cent of BCCI, which was one of the leading financial institutions in the world.

Journalist wins libel case against government

LONDON (AFP) — A British journalist won a libel case Friday against the British government when the High Court ruled that ministers in the Department of Trade and Industry had inaccurately assessed his report into the trade of instruments of torture.

Martyn Gregory was awarded 40,000 pounds (\$64,000) damages and 15,000 pounds (\$24,000) costs by the High Court, after the government clung down over remarks made on the report by Trade and In-

dustry Secretary Michael Heseltine and two other ministers.

The ministry called the report "contorted" and "scaremongering" prompting Mr. Gregory's legal action.

"I am delighted the government has agreed that the letters written by Heseltine and his ministers were libelous nonsense," Mr. Gregory said.

"This is an important victory for investigative journalism over a government that seems to have lost its moral authority. So much for the

sword of truth."

The Channel 4 documentary quoted employees at British Aerospace and International Procurement Services among others as saying the companies had supplied certain equipment, including instruments capable of producing electric shocks, to countries who might use them for torture.

Mr. Gregory said the sales had all proceeded with the tacit approval of the British government.

"Instead of investigating those who trade in weapons

that can be used for torture, Heseltine and his ministers subjected the programme to a stream of abuse," Mr. Gregory said.

After lashing out at the documentary, which was screened in January, the ministry said it had proof of the exports, particularly those to Saudi Arabia and China, had not taken place.

But it was forced to recognise by the High Court ruling that Mr. Gregory's investigation had been thoroughly conducted, and that its criticism therefore was unjustified.

Lebanon expects large payments surplus

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Central Bank governor said in remarks published on Saturday he expected a balance of payments surplus in June and July would cancel a \$500 million deficit registered in the first five months of 1995.

"It is true that the balance of payments registered a deficit of \$500 million in the

first five months but there is

nothing to prove that this

trend is irreversible or a con-

tinuous one," Riad Salameh told the bi-weekly magazine Al Mousher.

"I think that the months of

June and July will post a

surplus which may cover all

the deficit in the first five

months."

Mr. Salameh said expendi-

tures on infrastructural projects including airport, electricity and water were responsible for \$300 million of the January-May deficit.

He said Lebanon's net domestic debt of \$5 billion stood at about 60 per cent of gross domestic product while the ratio in some industrial-

ised countries was as high as 70 per cent.

"Our external debt calculated at \$811 million plus the newly issued treasury bonds in dollar worth \$300 million in the January-May deficit.

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Pedroso breaks long jump world record at Italian athletics meet

SESTRIERE, Italy (AP) — Ivan Pedroso of Cuba leapt into history here Saturday when he long jumped 8.96m to break Mike Powell's world record.

But four-times world pole vault champion Sergey Bubka of Ukraine, with three unsuccessful attempts at 6.15m, and Britain's world record triple jumper Jonathan Edwards both failed to take advantage of Sestriere's thin air.

Pedroso, competing in an athletics stadium built 2,035 metres up in the Alps, bettered by one centimetre the 8.95m Powell set at the 1991 World Championships in Tokyo where the American broke Bob Beaman's legendary mark of 8.90m that had stood since the 1968 Mexico City Olympics.

However, doubts about the validity of his record were raised because two people were standing in front of the wind-measuring instrument when he jumped.

Meeting judge Edi Pasquale said the apparatus was not shielded from the wind and would be asking the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) to ratify the record.

Records only count when the following wind is under two metres per second. The wind reached twice that level in gusts during much of the meeting but the reading for Pedroso's record jump was 1.2 mps.

Italian officials were involved in a controversy at the 1987 World Championships in Rome when it emerged that Giovanni Evangelisti's bronze medal-winning long jump of 8.38m was about 50cm further than he actually jumped.

The IAAF eventually withdrew his medal and placed him fourth.

However, Pedroso was in no doubt about an achievement that won a \$125,000 Ferrari.

"The jump was good," he

said. "With a bit of sun I would have jumped even further. But it probably won't be sunny at Gothenburg either and that's why I approached this competition as if it was the World Championships as you have to adapt to all types of condition."

"He said he had jumped against his two idols — Carl Lewis and Mike Powell.

"And I have now written their names off the record book," he added.

Both men will probably relish the challenge in Gothenburg. Powell, beaten every time out this year, says he needs the motivation from jumping against Lewis to reach his best.

Now he has Pedroso. As for Lewis, he can never accept anyone is superior.

But it is the Cuban who is now the favourite for the World Championship gold medal, and the keys to a winner's Mercedes.

Petrol rationing in Havana means he will probably leave his luxury cars at Larios in Spain where he is based with the other top Cuban athletes.

Bubka was jolted into action by South Africa's Oskar Brits, 22 next Wednesday, who became only the third man to vault six metres.

Bubka jumped 6m for the 39th time and the two men then attacked the bar at 6.15m, one centimetre higher than the record Bubka set here last year to claim a 1994 Ferrari.

Brits never got near and withdrew after only one attempt while Bubka missed with all three attempts.

Radion Gataullin of Russia, who vaulted 6.02m indoors in 1989, is the only other man to have cleared six metres.

Edwards, who has broken the 18m barrier four times this season only to be denied by an illegal following wind each time, jumped a wind-aided 17.58m.

He added a centimetre to

Willie Banks' 1985 record of 17.97m when he jumped 17.98m at Salamanca in Spain on July 18.

He twice beat the 60ft barrier at Lille in June with a



Cuba's Ivan Pedroso sets the new world long jump record of 8.96 metres at an athletics meeting in the Italian high-altitude ski resort of Sestriere (Reuters photo)

Willie Banks' 1985 record of

17.97m when he jumped

17.98m at Salamanca in Spain on July 18.

He twice beat the 60ft barrier at Lille in June with a

best of 18.43m.

The 22-year-old Pedroso, unbeaten this season, had reached a personal best of 8.80m at Lisbon in June.

Beaman's jump, also

helped by the effects of altitude, went almost unnoticed and it was almost the same here as a mist reduced visibility to the length of the long jump runway.

ROTORUA, New Zealand (R) — Colin McRae was

heading for a hat-trick of

New Zealand Rally victories

on Saturday as he led by over

a minute with one day re-

maining.

The British driver moved

clear on the long, twisty

Motu stage — pushing his

Subaru Impreza through it 35

seconds faster than French

world champion Didier Au-

nor in second place.

McRae continued to set

fastest times and stretched his

lead to a minute and three

seconds over Auriol at the

end of the third day.

Even the usually optimistic

French driver admitted that

he had little prospect of over-

hauling McRae's lead on the

relatively short and easy final

day.

"I'll keep going, but you

can't put McRae under pressure

when the gap is a minute ...

25 seconds yes, but a

minute is too much," said the

Toyota driver.

If McRae clinches his ex-

pected victory, it will be his

fourth world championship

win — three of them in New

Zealand.

"We always knew the third

day would be our strongest,

but we never expected to

the fans, who in fact whistled and jeered him.

Schumacher, who has never won his home race, said he had been too concentrated to get an impression from the crowds during his qualifying session.

But when his car fell silent, running out of fuel in the pit entry road, Schumacher said he realised the "unbelievable support from fans. It gave me goosebumps. It's fantastic."

Scot David Coulthard in the other Williams Renault was third fastest, one second ahead of last year's winner, Austrian Gerhard Berger in a

Hill predicted a very close race again, (because) there is not a big difference between the three of us.

"It will be a thrilling battle for the spectators, hopefully to the finish" of the 45 lap race, Hill said.

Hill's pole lap of 1 min. 44.385 secs., at an average speed of 235.309 kph, was nearly half a second better than his Friday pole time, but just 0.08 second ahead of Schumacher.

Despite support from the huge cheering, flag waving, and fireworks firing crowds in the Hockenheim stadium, Schumacher was unable to match Hill's pace when the Englishman confirmed the pole.

Hill said ironically that

"the crowd were delighted with my pole position and I got a good reception" from

netton, Schumacher admitted.

He said he "didn't expect to be so close after yesterday and this morning" when he was well off the leading pace.

He noted good improvements to his car Saturday, but conceded "Damon did too good a job for me today."

"We have the night to improve the car, and we usually pick up performance in the race," Schumacher said.

Coulthard, who had raced at Hockenheim so frequently in other series that "it's almost like a home track," said: "I feel I'll be strong in the race. It's not too bad to be on the second row as it's easier to overtake than on some other tracks."

"It's shaping up to be a very interesting race," said Coulthard.

Brazilian Rubens Barrichello and Irishman Eddie Irvine put their Jordan Peugeots into the fifth and sixth places, ahead of the McLaren Mercedes of Finn Mika Hakkinen and Briton Mark Blundell.

Johnny Herbert, who won his first Grand Prix at his home race at Silverstone two weeks ago, could only qualify ninth. "The car lacked grip and changes did not help to move me forward substantially," he said.

McRae heads for New Zealand Rally hat-trick

finish it with such a big lead," he said.

If Auriol and his Toyota teammate Juha Kankkunen of Finland maintain their overnight positions of second and third respectively, the top of the world championship points table will be very close.

With three rounds remain-

ing, Auriol would have 51 points, with Kankkunen and Carlos Sainz one point behind. Sainz is not competing in New Zealand because of a shoulder injury suffered in a mountain-bike accident.

Kankkunen is 31 seconds behind Auriol and a safe 36 seconds ahead of German Armin Schwarz in another Toyota.

... and the rest of the story

... and the rest of the

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 30 1995

Agassi, Sampras, Wilander move into the Montreal Open semifinals

MONTREAL (R) — Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras, the top two seeds, won their quarterfinal matches at the \$1.795 million Canadian Open Friday but it was unseeded Mats Wilander who stole the show.

The 102nd-ranked Wilander, who was the world's number one player in 1988, upset fourth-seeded and seventh-ranked Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia 7-5, 7-6, 7-4.

The top-seeded and top-ranked Agassi survived a tough first-set fight from Maitai Washington before posting a 7-6 (7-5) 6-3 win.

Second-seeded Pete Sampras had an even tougher first-set battle, coming back from 0-4 to capture a 7-6 (7-3) 6-2 win over seventh-seeded Michael Stich of Germany.

Fifth seed Thomas Enqvist of Sweden scored a 6-3, 6-4 win over third seed Michael Chang to earn a semifinal berth against Sampras. Enqvist also beat Chang in the final in Philadelphia this year in their only other meeting.

Wilander, whose slower, softer style than in yesteryear frustrates opponents accustomed to a power game, is expected to leap up the rankings to around 60th by virtue of his back-to-back victories over Kafelnikov and eighth-ranked Wayne Ferreira here.

It was the first time Wilander had beaten two top 10 players in a row since the 1988 Australian Open when, as the second-ranked player in the world, he defeated Stefan Edberg in the semifinal and put cash in the final.

"I'm thrilled as hell to be in the semifinals," Wilander said. "Now my confidence is growing that I can beat top 10 players and I'm not going to be happy losing in the first or second rounds anymore."

Kafelnikov took a 4-1 lead with a service break in the second game. But Wilander earned the service break back when, at 30-40 in the ninth game, Kafelnikov double-faulted, and the Swede won the next seven games.

Wilander served for the match at 5-4 in the second set but was forced into a tie-breaker, where he won the final three points.

The ninth-ranked Stich opened playing flawless tennis to take his 4-0 lead over the second-ranked Sampras.

"I don't remember a set where I came back from two breaks," the American said. "I had no business winning that set, but strange things happen."

Sampras added: "When someone's playing that well, there's nothing you can do. I just hung in there and he came down to earth."

Stich crashed in the sixth game when he committed two double faults to lose



Pete Sampras

serve. Using another service break in the 10th game, Sampras was able to push the set into a tiebreaker where he won the final four points.

"He didn't win the first

set, I lost it," Stich said. "I gave it to him and gave him the match."

Stich flung his racket to his

courtside chair after losing

War in Bosnia spills over into Italian soccer

ROME (R) — The emotions of the Bosnian war are spilling over into Italy's Serie A soccer league, with Serbian and Croatian stars locked in a bitter verbal exchange over who is to blame for the killings.

The league counts nine players from former Yugoslavia, some of them top stars like AC Milan's Montenegrin playmaker Dejan Savicevic, but most had remained silent about the conflict until recently.

The row, which has pit Savicevic against Croatian teammate Zvonimir Boban, started two weeks ago after Serbian Sinisa Mihajlovic accused the Italian press of putting the sole blame for the war on his countrymen.

"I've been in Italy for three years and I've never heard a good word said about the Serbs. It seems as if we were the only ones responsible for this war, as if only we were to blame," Mihajlovic told reporters in Rome.

"But the fact is everybody is against everybody in this conflict, atrocities are being committed by each side. It's horrific," added Mihajlovic, 26.

The comments by the Sampdoria midfielder polarized Balkan players into two camps — those who condemned the Serbs, and those who condemned all the fighting factions.

Indy Car driver crashes

BROOKLYN, Michigan (AP) — Robby Gordon was knocked unconscious Friday in a high-speed crash during practice for Sunday's Marlboro 500 Indy-Car race. The 26-year-old Gordon, one of the budding stars of the PPG Cup series, had to be cut of his car after the hard crash. Dr. Steve Olvey, IndyCar's director of medical affairs, and Gordon awoke in the ambulance on the way to the infield Medical Centre. Olvey said Gordon was awake and alert when he was flown by helicopter to hospital for tests. He was expected to be kept overnight for observation. Gordon appeared to lose control coming off the fourth turn on the newly repaved 2-mile (3.2-km), high-banked oval. His Walker racing Reynard-Ford smashed into the concrete barrier, skidded onto the main straightaway and stopped against the wall.

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Abu Shaqra introduces a new scent: Faconnable

Rami Abu Shaqra the Director General of the Abu Shaqra Trading Agency, held a press conference during which he announced the introduction of the new scent Faconnable explaining that it has been named after the Faconnable fashion firm because it is the first perfume it has produced and it reflects the great quality of the firm's products.

According to Mr Abu Shaqra, the idea behind Faconnable is based on an inspiration from the past but at the same time it is a reflection of the concept of modernisation. He said that Faconnable is a scent that conforms to the original idea saying that the essence of the old emerges through the right blending of elements available in the modern age. He noted that the new scent came to emphasise this philosophy.

Graf ready to quit tennis

BONN (AFP) — Steffi Graf, women's world number one, is ready to give up tennis because of the current investigation into her financial affairs, according to Monday's edition of *Der Spiegel*.

"She is genuinely thinking of retiring," declared a friend. "She has never been as close."

Graf, who recently won Wimbledon for a sixth time, will either take the decision in the next few weeks or after the United States Open in September.

Several of Graf and her father Peter's homes were raided on May 23 by the Mannheim justice department investigating tax evasion.

Der Spiegel says her father had hidden several million marks in revenue derived from advertising in front companies and under assumed names.

Graf, who unlike other German sports stars Boris Becker and Michael Schumacher has remained in Germany, refuted the accusations.

"I am preoccupied with my tennis career and I left all the financial matters in the hands of my father and other financial experts," she said.

She also repudiated the idea that her advisors had made any mistakes and felt she too would have to leave Germany.

According to the magazine "Graf Enterprise" paid the taxman only 7 million marks (\$5 million from revenue of \$5 million marks (\$25 million) in the last four years.

Graf's personal fortune is estimated at more than 100 million marks (\$72 million).



Steffi Graf screams in joy after winning her last Grand Slam title in Wimbledon July 8

Jordan Times Tel. 667171

Farewell party at Forte Grand

FORTE GRAND Amman's Andalusia restaurant was the venue for a farewell party to five military attaches organised by the British Embassy. The five attaches from Britain, Pakistan, Russia, Oman and Turkey were presented with commemorative gifts to remind them of their stay in Jordan. The hotel presented them with a special cake, to mark their departure, that was decorated with the flags of each nation and Good-bye in each language.

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Jordan triumphs in last match in Asian women's basketball tournament

China, South Korea qualify to Olympics

SHIZUOKA, Japan (AFP) — Three-time defending champions China breezed past Taiwan 99-72 on Saturday to set up a final encounter against South Korea at the Asian women's basketball championships. They both qualify automatically for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

The Koreans, who defeated China and Japan to win the gold medal at the Hiroshima Asian Games last year, overwhelmed Kazakhstan 129-56, while Japan trounced Kirghizstan 117-41.

China, South Korea and Japan finished the six-nation round robin tournament with 4-1 win-loss records with China taking top spot thanks to a better point average among the three teams, South Korea second and Japan third.

China and South Korea clinched the places for the Atlanta Olympic Games next year, while Japan will take on Taiwan in a third-place playoff, vying for the last ticket to the United States.

★ Snippets from Shizouka

★ Rana Husseini scored the first and last point for Jordan in the championship.

★ Thailand won the Level B title.

★ Jordan's referee Atiyeh Wuheidi umpired the Korea-Kazakhstan match.

★ The Kingdom's delegation will leave Shizouka at 5 a.m. Monday morning and arrive in Amman via Kuala Lumpur at 5

a.m. Tuesday.

Jordan's players dedicated their win to all those who made their trip possible and especially their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath, who contributed JD 5,000 to cover

the group's travel expenses after their funding campaign fell short of its target.

Level B Final Standings

	W	L	SF	SA	Pts.
Thailand	5	—	356	215	10
Malaysia	3	2	293	289	8
Philippines	3	2	346	308	8
Hong Kong	3	2	296	296	8
Jordan	1	4	224	352	6
Indonesia	—	5	244	299	5

to win 58-55.

Scoring came as follows: Jumana Sali 18, Hala Muheisen, 13, Rana Husseini, 12, Andeira Qaseesieh 7, Jehane Abdellou 6, Rania Dajani 2.

★ RESULTS: Level A:

Korea-Kazakhstan 129-56
China-Taipei 99-72
Japan-Kyrgyzstan 117-41

In other Level B matches:

Malaysia beat Philippines 74-72 and Thailand defeated Hong Kong 84-45.

America's soccer run is more special considering its history

NEW YORK (AP) — They all remember the bad times.

There have been so many. Those old enough to have memories of the American national team can close their eyes and see empty stadiums, or worse, home stadium filled with the other team's fans.

There were the struggles against the Guatamalas by the Englands.

Eric Wynalds can remember Czechoslovakia at the 1990 World Cup. Tab Ramos and John Harkes can remember El Salvador in 1989. And Paul Caligiuri and John Kerr Jr. can see all the way back to 1985, and elimination at home from World Cup qualifying by Costa Rica.

All of those trials have made the past seven weeks even more remarkable for the Americans. Thinking back just 10 years, never mind the 65 or more before that, has made winning of the U.S. Cup over Nigeria, Mexico and Colombia, and the ride to the semifinals of the Copa America over Chile and Argentina a super summer. "It's awesome," was the reaction of captain and defender Marcelo Balboa, the American all-time leader with 105 caps. "When I started in '88, we would go on the field saying 'how bad our we gonna get beat today.'

of it Costa Rican. In 1989, it had a chance to clinch a World Cup berth with a victory over already eliminated El Salvador. Playing at home outside St. Louis, it played to a miserable 0-0 draw before a crowd of less than 10,000.

Despite reaching the second round at the World Cup last summer, America's reputation had gained little.

The summer has done a lot to make the Americans take a respected place in soccer. The 3-2 victory over Nigeria; the 4-0 thrashing of Mexico followed by a penalty-kick victory nearly a month later; the 2-1 win over Chile; and the capper — a 3-0 demolition of Argentina is a string of results unmatched in U.S. history.

"Now we walk out on the field, and teams are being intimidated by us."

"You've got (opponents) calling you by your first name," says Caligiuri, right behind Balboa with 103 caps. "Before, you didn't even know if they knew your name."

Sure for a few notable upsets, America's international record until the last 3-4 years has been notorious. After getting to the semifinals of the first World Cup in 1930 and the 1-0 upset over England, America's national team had been a laughing stock.

Losses of 10-2 to Chile in 1963, 10-0 to Brazil in 1963, England in '64 and Italy in '73.

More recently, there was the 5-1 bombing by Czechoslovakia, the United States' first appearance in the World Cup in 40 years. But there also were games against the tiny Concacaf Latin nations that make the routs seem even more.

In 1985, needing only a draw against Costa Rica in the Los Angeles suburb of Torrance, California, to get to the second round of World Cup qualifying, the United States lost 1-0 before a crowd of 10,000 — about 99 per cent

of the time.

"Now a stretch (of matches)," said Roger Allaway, president of the Society for American Soccer History, trying to recall something that came close to the summer of 1995. "There have been games here and there, but the combination of the U.S. Cup and Copa America, this nine-game streak is unprecedented."

The five victories and one draw are not going unnoticed.

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Hamas sends Clinton letter demanding freedom for detainee

AMMAN (Agencies) — Palestinian group Hamas said Saturday it wrote U.S. President Bill Clinton demanding the release of one of its leaders being held by U.S. immigration authorities.

Ibrahim Ghoshek, a Jordan-based spokesman for the Islamic party, said a letter sent to Mr. Clinton on Saturday called for Mousa Abu Marzuk to be "immediately and unconditionally" let go.

The PLO also asked the United States on Saturday not to extradite to Israel Mr. Abu Marzuk.

Palestinian Self-rule Authority member Samir Ghoshek told reporters in Gaza: "We are against any decision to hand over Mousa Marzuk to the Israeli authorities."

Palestinian Authority member Nabil Shaath said "there is no legal reason to justify handing over Abu Marzuk, an American citizen, to Israel. If he is charged with specific legal issues, we prefer to have him tried in Palestinian courts."

Mr. Abu Marzuk, a native of the Palestinian-ruled Gaza Strip, was detained Thursday in New York by the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) as he was returning from a two-month trip abroad.

The U.S. government

wants to deport Mr. Abu Marzuk, 45, a 14-year registered resident of Falls Church, Virginia, because of his association with Hamas.

Washington regards Hamas as a terrorist organisation which seeks the destruction of Israel and wreckage of the Middle East peace process.

The militant group has been blamed for a series of deadly attacks against Israelis.

Mr. Ghoshek said the letter "explained that Hamas is a movement resisting Israeli occupation, a right guaranteed to us under civil laws and it is similar to American resistance of (British) colonisation 200 years ago."

He told the Associated Press that the letter "focused on the clean and legal record of Mousa Abu Marzuk in the United States during the past 14 years."

He said it also "urged the Clinton administration to reassess its policy regarding Islam in the Middle East and towards Islamic forces operating there."

U.S. embassy officials here were not immediately available for comment.

Hamas officials say Mr. Abu Marzuk is the head of the group's political bureau. They say he moved to Lebanon late last year after representing Hamas in Syria for three years.

Iraq hits out at U.S. for mediating between Kurds

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq on Saturday dismissed attempts by the United States to mediate between warring Kurdish factions in northern Iraq as flagrant interference in its domestic affairs.

Culture and Information Minister Hamed Youssef Hammadi said Washington was trying to sabotage Iraq's peaceful overtures to Kurdish rebel leaders in a bid to use Iraqi Kurds "as a cheap card ... to conspire against Iraq and prolong the (U.N. Gulf war) sanctions."

"This attitude exposes on the widest scale the American policy which has been the main reason for the destruction and misery our Kurdish people undergo in areas where America has spread its despotic control," Mr. Hammadi told the Iraqi News Agency (INA) in a statement.

The U.S. State Department said on Thursday the two main Kurdish groups in northern Iraq, the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), had agreed to its mediation to halt fighting between their militias.

Since then U.N. officials in Baghdad have said both the KDP and PUK, which have divided northern Iraq into two separate spheres of influence, have halted fighting. But they said the situation was still very tense.

Fighting between the Kurdish factions has led to the collapse of local administration in the region and paralysed a power-sharing agreement that followed regional elections in 1990.

Turkey, uneasy about the situation, says the power vacuum in the area helps Turkish Kurdish guerrillas based there to launch cross-border attacks, prompting military incursions by Ankara.

An Iraqi Kurdish official in Ankara said on Tuesday that the PUK and KDP leaders had held talks with an envoy from Iraq's President Saddam Hussein, believed to be the highest level of contact with Baghdad in several

Iraq vowed to cooperate fully with Ekeus

Iraq will cooperate "to the maximum" with the U.N. Special Commission on disarmament (UNSCOM) when its chief investigator Rolf Ekeus visits Baghdad next week, a newspaper here pledged Saturday.

The daily *Babel*, run by President Saddam Hussein's son Uday, said: "Iraq is anxious to cooperate with their misguided ways," he would "resort to other means."

Iraq wants to convince the United Nations that it has complied with all U.N. resolutions on abandoning weapons of mass destruction to enable a lifting of economic sanctions imposed after its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Last week, however, it warned it would stop cooperating with UNSCOM if the commission did not finish its work by the end of August and give Baghdad the all-clear.

Babel urged UNSCOM to distance itself from disinformation spread by the CIA intelligence service in the United States in an attempt to prolong sanctions.

New daily to appear in January

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A new political daily is expected to go to print as of January next year, bringing the number of dailies in the Kingdom to four.

The newspaper to be published by the Arab Publishers Company, which produces the weekly tabloid *Shihan*, will have a capital of JD 3 million, according to Riad Hroub, *Shihan*'s publisher.

Dr. Hroub said the daily will be a "serious political newspaper that financial independent."

"It will be the forum for

all points of views," Dr. Hroub told the *Jordan Times*. "The new daily will (present) a new experience to Jordanian readers."

Dr. Hroub said the new daily would be different in style and coverage from the three dailies in the market, *Al Ra'i*, *Al Dustour* and *Al Aswaq*. Although Arab Publishers have not applied for licence yet, Dr. Hroub said, he is confident that all procedures will go smoothly and that the daily will be successful.

"We are not afraid of competition," he said. "We studied the market and we are sure we are going to succeed."

"It will be the forum for

Mubarak rules out war against Sudan

CAIRO (AFP) — President Hosni Mubarak has said Egypt would not go to war against Sudan although he was certain it was at the root of an attempt on his life.

"I will not start a war against Sudan," he said in a newspaper interview published on Saturday. "Who would I go to fight against in Sudan? The Sudanese people are our relatives."

But Mr. Mubarak was "100 per cent" sure that Sudan was behind the abortive bid on his life in Addis Ababa, a charge denied by Khartoum.

"Sudan harbours terrorism, and terrorism comes from Sudan," the president charged, ruling out any Ethiopian involvement in the assassination bid on June 26.

Mr. Mubarak warned Sudanese leaders that "if they persist with their misguided ways," he would "resort to other means."

2 Palestinians facing explosives charges freed

LONDON (R) — A Palestinian couple arrested in a case related to last summer's bombing of the Israeli embassy were released Friday after a court found insufficient evidence to press arms charges.

Reem Ibrahim Abdul Hadi, 34, and Mohammad Derbas, 31, had been charged with possessing explosives and weapons with intent to endanger life.

Three other people involved in the same case — Nadia Zekra, Jawed Mahmoud Botmeh, and Miss Samar Alami — remain in custody on explosive charges in connection with bombings of a Jewish centre and the Israeli embassy in London last July.

A 14-kg bomb exploded outside the Israeli embassy in west London last July, injuring 14 people. A further six people were injured when a second bomb went off later outside the offices of a Jewish charity in north London.

Prosecutor Andrew Hartman said Britain's prosecution service, the CPS, was still satisfied that the decision to charge Ms. Abdul Hadi and Mr. Derbas was "entirely justified."

"We are not afraid of competition," he said. "We studied the market and we are sure we are going to succeed."

"It will be the forum for

Jordan expelled Mr. Abu Marzuk on June 1 along with a deputy.

In Damascus, radical Palestinian factions told the United States to free Mr. Abu Marzuk.

An alliance of 10 radical groups, issuing an identical statement to one issued earlier by Hamas, warned the United States of the consequences of handing Mr. Abu Marzuk to Israel.

Government spokesman Uri Dromi said Israel had not asked the United States to arrest Mr. Abu Marzuk.

Russ Bergeron, an INS spokesman in Washington, said the government has begun exclusion proceedings to bar Mr. Abu Marzuk from coming back into the country. The first is scheduled for Monday morning.

Exclusion hearings, unlike deportation hearings, are not open to the public, Ms. Bergeron said.

The Palestinian self-rule authority has offered him a home.

"The U.S. administration is hereby held responsible for whatever harm happens to a member of the alliance as Abu Marzuk," the group's statement added.

This man is not personally involved in nor is he planning to be involved in an armed struggle. He is a political leader of Hamas. Politically, that's it," the lawyer said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said on Friday Israel wanted the United States to deliver Mr. Abu Marzuk, who has the right of residence in America, to Israel.

Abu Marzuk had lived in the United States at least 14 years and had permanent resident status.

Mr. Cohen said detaining his client, who had left and reentered the country many times before with no trouble, was absurd.

"This man is not personally involved in nor is he planning to be involved in an armed struggle. He is a political leader of Hamas. Politically, that's it," the lawyer said.

He heads Hamas' political department, a role which means he at least has some connection with the real leaders. But how influential he is, is not clear.

Israeli intelligence assumes he is a leading decision-maker, more influential than anyone

U.S. State Department officials reportedly

in Gaza, a view shared

by some Palestinian analysts, including some who have met him abroad.

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